# DARLINGTON REVIEW

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Material for each edition of the Review must be submitted before 5pm on the 20th of the preceding month. Please keep Letter to the Review brief and include your name, address and phone number. Contact details will not be printed and you can request that a pseudonym rather than your name be used. Letters must be emailed to: editorial@darlingtonreview.com.au or placed in the Review box in the Post Office by the deadline date of the 20th of the month.

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# EDITORIAL

**Chris Durrant** | July Editor

Chris and his wife Shirley came to Darlington many years ago and have never left. All four children were brought up here and went to Darlington Primary. Having spent his working life as a financial manager, a pig farmer, and a school teacher, in his retirement Chris has written three novels (so far) and has been a regular Acting Editor of the Review.

*Wildlife?*

*Jungle jumps*

**Wandering through the bush in our neighbourhood, you can often see strange and wonderful things. The sight pictured above is certainly strange but hardly wonderful. It will have been seen by those walking in the last few weeks along the path beside Lionel Road towards the swimming pool. Why anyone would have thought that dumping old bricks and masonry in that place was a good idea is beyond me but, as they say up in Yorkshire, "there's nowt as queer as folk!" I include it in case the perpetrator (or, more likely, one of their near and dear – somebody who does that kind of thing is probably not a Review reader or even, perhaps, literate) might be shamed into going and removing the results of their illegal dumping. You never know!**

And it isn't just random vandalism that is a problem. Right over the other side of Darlington some youngsters, obviously finding the jumps in the bike park by the pavilion insufficiently challenging, have constructed an elaborate bike jumps course to the detriment of the national park where they have been placed and the inconvenience and annoyance of local residents. The relevant department has been informed and the jumps will be removed once the bureaucratic machine grinds into action. However, perhaps it is a reminder that whenever we make a plan that will affect those around us, we should consider whether it is in their interests and, if the answer might be 'no', maybe make another plan!

*Planting is fun!*

*But don't forget to water them in.*

These pictures, taken not very far from the first one, depict a much more felicitous interaction between the local community and our natural environment. Forty Year 9 students from Helena College helped FOBWE (Friends of Bilgoman Well for those not fully conversant with local acronyms) put in over 140 native seedlings – flowers, bushes and trees - in the area below the Aquatic Centre around the Well and the adjacent Convict Ruins. We managed to pick a break in the rains and it looked as though a good time was had by all (if you're a school student, a couple of hours spent pottering in the bush has got to beat sitting behind a desk back in the classroom!). It is to be hoped that they will be able to wander down the path by the Well and see the results of their labours beautifying the bush for years to come.

## Farewell Philippa

**A community tends to be defined by the folk who make it up, and this is especially true of a place like Darlington, full of creative, artistic, strong-minded people. All these epithets would apply to Philippa O'Brien who left Darlington recently after living here for several decades.**

Her association with Darlington began when she was a student at UWA and met Darlington artist Guy Grey-Smith, then painting a mural at the University. He became a friend of Philippa and her fellow-student, later husband, Collin O'Brien and through him they got sucked into the vibrant Darlington Arts scene and came to live in Darlington. Philippa went on to explore multiple creative paths, including paintings and theatre design, tapestries in civic buildings (superbly translated into wool by the Victorian Tapestry Workshop), artworks and installations across metropolitan Perth, and designs for public areas in Kings Park. More recently, her striking sculptures became a feature in the award-winning Ellenbrook development. As well as her personal artwork, Philippa became closely involved in the Darlington arts scene, including being a Patron of the Arts Festival for many years. She was also one of the founding Trustees of the Mundaring Bicentennial Scholarship Trust which administers the Robert Juniper Award for the Arts. Having served on the Board of the Trust for over 25 years she remains a Friend for Life of the Trust.

*Hovea by Philippa O'Brien (1986)*

After Collin's death some years ago, Philippa continued to live and work in her Darlington home. She is the author of several books, most recently 'No Stone without a name', a history of the Swan River Colony containing numerous beautiful and largely unknown illustrations. Philippa has been in poor health for some years and eventually this led to what must have been the difficult decision to leave Darlington and go East to live with her daughter in Melbourne. She has certainly left her mark back here in the Hills and all who knew her will want to join me in wishing her well. (Thanks to Trea for much of the information on Philippa's early career – see Trea's book on the DAF "Arts on the Edge: Darlington, The Place,The People, The Festival", obtainable from the Nook, the Hive, the Post Office or through the Darlington History Group website)

## Members off

**Many of us spend quite a bit of time grumbling about the shortcomings of our political system in general and our elected representatives in particular (that is what you can do in a parliamentary democracy). I'm sure that most would agree, though, that, despite those shortcomings, our system ticks most of the boxes you would want ticked. We generally get done much of what the majority of us would like to be done, even if sometimes not quite as quickly as we want. As far as our members of parliament are concerned, having lived in Darlington for a good many years, I think I can say with some confidence that we have been well served in that time.**

A variety of folk, from both the major parties, have looked after our interests, it seems to me, with care and diligence, and we have been lucky to have them. It is, however, a very demanding job and most politicians eventually come to the end of the line, or at least a station on the way where they can step off, with some relief, into a life of greater relaxation and tranquility. Two of our current State members have decided that the next election, due early next year, marks that station for them, one of these being Donna Faragher, MLC for the East Metropolitan Region. The other retiree, Darlington resident Matthew Hughes MLA, features in a 'My Place' on page 10.

*Donna Faragher MLC.*

Looking at her, it is hard to believe that, when she hangs up her 'Honourable' tag (or whatever it is that MPs regard as the symbol of their office) next May, she will have been the longest-serving member ever for the Eastern Metropolitan Region – no less than 20 years. Given the change in the representation system which will come into effect at the next election (see below), that is a title that cannot be taken from her. When I asked what had got her into parliament in the first place, she said that, having worked for a parliamentarian for some years, she had a good idea how the system worked and relished the opportunity to do something positive for the community which she knew was, ideally, the essence of the job.

And she has not been disappointed. During her years in the building on the hill overlooking the Perth CBD, some of those years in government (twice a minister), and some in opposition, she has gained enormous satisfaction from her interactions with the community, especially those with beneficial outcomes, such as persuading the Government to spend more on support services for children, to rebuild and reinvigorate Governor Stirling Senior High School and, more trivial perhaps but one of her personal favourites, the Schools Christmas Card Competition.

Why is she pulling the pin? Well, it isn't because she is not enjoying it – she still loves her job. However, she suggested that you shouldn't wait until you no longer like what you do before you change. She is going to have a good think about where to next and isn't ruling anything in or out. It will probably have something to do with her passion for young people and community services generally. What does the family feel? Husband Scott is, as always, most supportive in whatever she decides. Children (11 and nearly 14) have mixed feelings. This is what their mother has done for all of their lives and they are going to have to cope with a change. The 11-year-old, however, is apparently looking forward to having his Mum home a bit more.

Who will be stepping into her shoes? As you may know, the Government has changed the system for electing the Upper House and there are now no longer separate regions: everybody votes for all the Legislative Council members. In practice, of course, there will still be a strong connection between certain MLC's and the electors in particular regions and the Liberal Party at least will continue to give their MLC's responsibility for designated areas, even if this is informal. One person who will be standing as an Upper House member next year is well-known Darlington personality (recently President and then Secretary of DRRA) Anthony Spagnolo so, if he is successful next May, he may well be seen as Donna's successor. In any case, I am sure you would all want to join me in thanking her for everything she has done for us over the past two decades and wishing her well for the future, whatever that may hold.

## Dip those sticks!

**Anybody who has been to the Arts Festival in recent years can hardly fail to be aware of the Darlington Dipsticks who have invariably had an interesting display of old cars for us to marvel at. The group grew, back in 2016, from casual get-togethers of car enthusiasts to a formal organisation that has monthly meetings at the Hall and organizes regular car runs for its members and their preferred means of transport. I had the pleasure recently of a chat with Bindy Datson, one of the founders of the Dipsticks (together with Mark Alderson, Dave Pole, Malcolm McNabb, Mark Coleman and Barb Thomas), and its Secretary for the past eight years. Incidentally, if you are wondering, as I did, whether she had been named after a car, that is, in fact, not the case. Bindy's family background is from Cornwall, and Datson is a good Cornish name. Apparently, the Nissan Datsun was originally called the Datson, but the company decided that it was insufficiently Japanese (and perhaps that Cornwall was unlikely to prove a major market) so changed the 'o' to a'u'.**

*Bindy and her Mini.*

Bindy's more recent background is New Zealand before arriving in Australia a good few years ago. She met husband Mark, a good WA lad, in South Australia where their work – planning and assessment of salt fields, mostly for mining companies – brought them together. They built a delightful house in Darlington some 20 years ago. Always interested in cars (she raced Minis back in the Shaky Isles in her youth and, as you can see from the attached pic, her latest restoration project is a Mini 850), it was no surprise that she was in the Dipsticks from the word go. Starting with around 10-15 members, they now boast over 40, which allows them to issue Concessional Licences to their members. This enables you to drive your elderly car on club runs and also a limited distance for maintenance. The big positive is that it will cost you $75 instead of the usual licence fee of $700+. Bindy has also been responsible for the Club's magazine – The Dipsticks Rag, a collection of car stories and interesting motor-facts - that normally comes out a couple of times a year, though it was a good deal more frequent during the COVID years.

So where are Bindy and Mark off to? Well, around the time they built their Darlington house, they also acquired a block in Bremer Bay and had a cottage down there. For all those years just a holiday shack, they have now decided to make it their home and will be moving down there permanently before too long. There is no doubt they will be much missed by their good friends in Darlington, especially in the rev-head brigade. No doubt they will be back from time to time, and we would expect fairly regular Dipsticks' car runs in the far south of the State. Incidentally, if you think the Dipsticks sound fun, why not take a look at them? The wonderful Abi Hall is reconstructing their web site which should be ready for you to consult in early July. Go and have a look! Some fascinating stories! You might even be inspired to join up! Only $30 annually! Not much more than brekky at the Hive or the Nook!

## Players

**Living, as we do, in a beautiful little back-water (well, that's one of the reasons we live here, isn't it?) we do not often have a chance to read a book set in our home environment. Deborah Pike, who grew up in the Wheatbelt and the Darling Scarp (her parents lived in Kalamunda) has just published a novel, 'The Players', much of which takes place in the Hills. This is not surprising since, apart from her own early experiences, Deb wrote quite a bit of the book over several weeks at the KSP Centre in Greenmount where she spent a while as an emerging writer in residence.**

*Deborah Pike*

'The Players' is the story of a group of university students who get together to rehearse a play. It tells of their relationships during that time and over the subsequent years when they disperse across the world to pursue their different lives. Deb herself is well-travelled, including several years living and working in Paris. She is currently an academic lecturing in English Literature at Notre Dame University in Sydney.

Deb is no stranger to the world of publishing, being the author of 'The subversive art of Zelda Fitzgerald'. This is her first venture, however, into the world of fiction. The book was officially launched in Sydney and Perth in May. Officiating at the Sydney launch was local hero Tim Minchin, whom Deb had met (and acted with) when they were students at UWA. Tim was evidently more than impressed, describing the book as 'beautiful, ambitious, and moving'. Sounds like something you might enjoy! You can get your copy from all good bookstores, or online at https://fremantlepress.com.au/books/the-players/.

## Say the WORD!

**Move over possums, more wildlife is moving into Darlington! Readers of last month's Review will recall mention of a scheme called WORD set up to tackle the problem of maintaining habitat for wild animals in Darlington and the surrounding bush.**

During blistering temperatures in February 2024, Aaron Shiel from Darlington Post Office advertised the Australia Post's Smarty grant 2024 being open for a community not-for-profit organisation, working to make a difference in our community. Having just purchased Simon Cherriman's book *Hollowed Out*? about providing habitat for threatened species, and working as a Member of Friends of Mandoon Park Reserve (FOMP), Louise Stelfox was inspired to apply for funding under Australia Post's *Environment & Sustainability* topic, delivering biodiversity and conservation.

Louise explains, 'This hot summer reinforces the importance of maintaining a tree canopy and retaining mature, habitat trees, so our wildlife has a chance to survive, on private land as well as in our Reserves. Not everyone in Darlington understands the importance of old, tall trees for providing important habitat, especially for threatened species. Many wildlife species need natural tree hollows in which to nest, sleep and find shelter. Typically, these natural hollows are only found in trees over 200 years old. You sometimes see new residents removing old, tall trees, and it really hurts. I would like everyone to understand the importance of such trees in providing habitat, and where we don't have it, we can use nest-boxes to substitute for habitat loss'.

Putting together the grant application, Louise consulted numerous local conservationists, including representatives of many of the Darlington Friends groups (see last month's Review) and, of course, Simon Cherriman and his partner Danielle Crichton, who together run The Re-Cyc-Ology Project, a local family business specialising in tree-hollow and nest-box work. After Simon named the scheme the Wildlife of Reserves in Darlington, the WORD project took flight.

Louise argues that the best way to educate a community is to educate school children first. 'Enthused and excited school kids chatter away, and share knowledge with mums and dads, grannies and poppies, cousins, aunts and uncles …, hence this project targets school children, one school to monitor and care for a nest box (for birds) or habitat box (for reptiles and marsupials), in each of the five reserves. However, the whole community is encouraged to join in'.

Desired project outcomes:

- Darlington community-wide education about the importance of mature trees in the creation of habitat, biodiversity and conservation
- School children monitoring, reporting and caring for wildlife taking up residence in the nest and habitat boxes
- Threatened species breeding in Darlington's Reserves

*Our friendly Post Officer, Aaron.*

Aaron Shiel was excited when he announced that the Wildlife of Reserves in Darlington (WORD) project had been awarded an Auspost grant. Louise thanks Aaron for nominating the project; the Helena River Catchment Group for auspicing it, the Friends groups for getting involved, and Kathryn Johnson from the Shire of Mundaring, for her support.

*Chief WORD-smith Simon Cherriman sitting next to his partner Danielle Crichton with their son Flynn on his lap. Also in the pic are Darlington WORDsfolk Louise Stelfox and David Kozak.*

The WORD project kicked off on 1 June 2024, when Simon Cherriman led over 20 Darlington residents through three of Darlington's reserves. They need pro-bono donations of wildlife cameras which may be installed in the boxes to record what's going on inside. For more information, and to get involved, and especially to organise fund-raising for the cameras, please email Louise at louise.stelfox@bigpond.com (thanks to Louise).

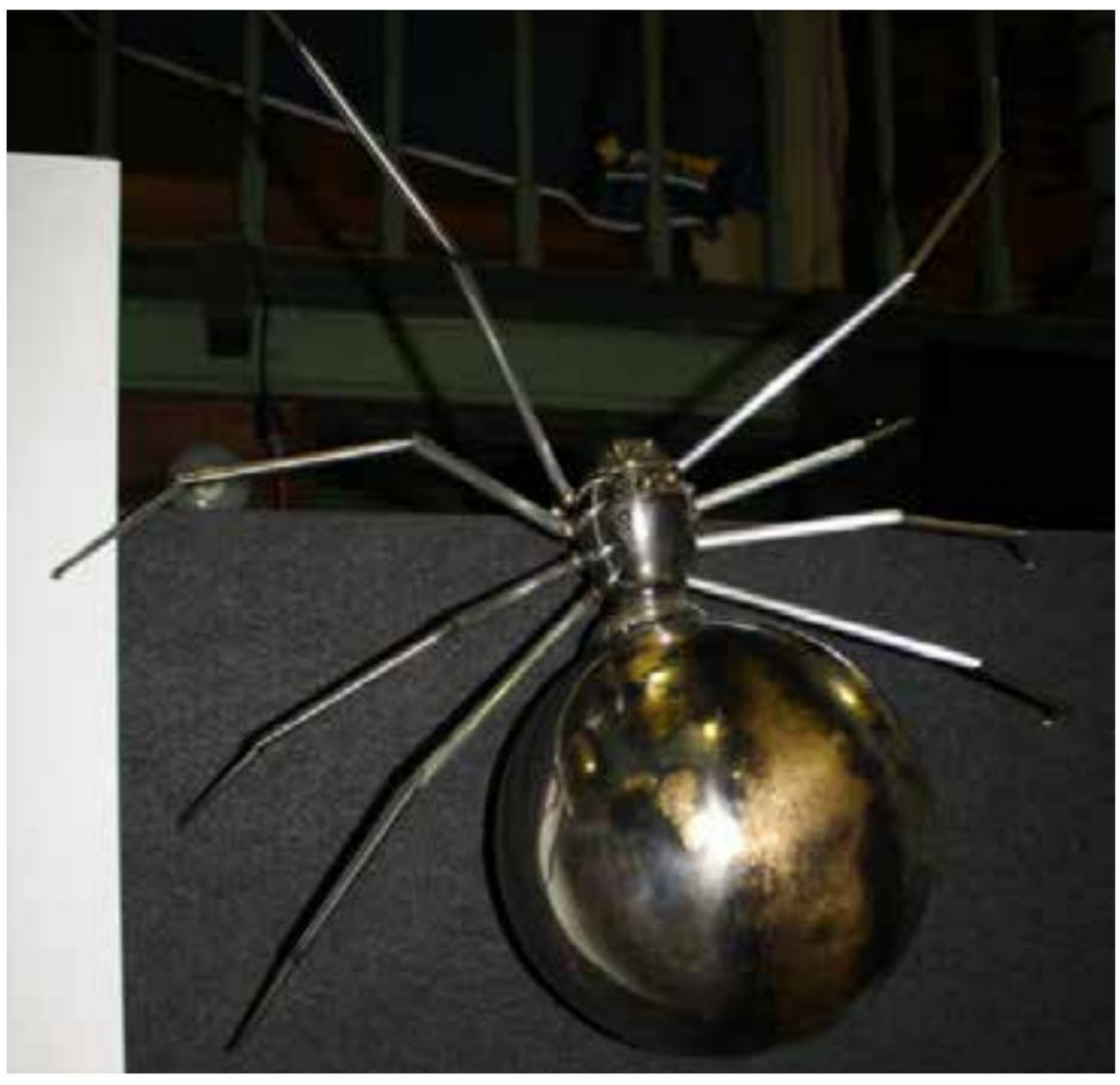
*Simon spreading the WORD.*

*(Top and below) Morphed metal – Heavy and Light! and (right) the artist and his art.*

## Metallic Metamorphosis

**Editing the Review does come with some benefits, including invitations to events that you might not otherwise be aware of. I had the great pleasure recently of being invited to the opening of Vince Austin's latest exhibition (see advert in the June Review) which was staged in the Power House of the Old Midland Railway Workshops and was formally opened by Darlington stalwart Mark Alderson.**

This was an entirely appropriate venue for an astonishing collection of sculptures made from metallic odds and ends, old pieces of machinery, tools and containers. I have seldom seen a more fascinating, ingenious and entertaining display of artwork. Vince himself is an interesting chap who has made props and models for film and TV, including several months in New Zealand on the Lord of the Rings series. Although currently residing down at Casuarina (he was at pains to emphasise AT not IN, a claim supported by the complete absence at the recent exhibition opening of armed prison officers and other security measures) Vince has lived in Darlington off and on for many years and



aficionados of the art at the Darlington Arts Festival will be very familiar with his work. He usually participates in the 'Sculpture on the Scarp' and in fact won it a couple of years back. Regular DAF-odils will also recognise him as a guitarist who has performed at the Festival often with locals such as Glen Whisson, and indeed has his own small group for whom he writes much of the music.

When I asked Vince what he most enjoys, he told me that everyday, when he wakes up, he knows that he will be doing something that he likes, and that makes him glad to be alive. Art, whether sculpture or other graphic art, music, dance, whatever, he sees as the most intensive and essential part of the human condition, and nothing can be more satisfying than being involved in it, either as a creator or as a consumer!

If you'd like to find out more, or see for yourself some of these extraordinary works of art (and by the time you read this, unfortunately, the exhibition at the Power House will have closed) have a look on the website at https://www.vinceaustin.com/

## Wheelchairs for Kids

**For the second year in a row the Darlington community will be giving new life to their pre-loved soft toys and blankets by supporting Wheelchairs for Kids, a not-for-profit organisation based in Wangara. They assemble and deliver rough terrain wheelchairs to children living with disabilities in developing countries.**

The ideal size for soft toys is up to 30cm and blankets/knee rugs are recommended to be roughly 90cm x 90cm, all donations can be used or unused and should be in good condition. Donations must be made before July 15.

If you'd like to make a donation please contact Marie for drop off information on 0436 418 630 or reach out to me via my post on the Darlington Hub Facebook page.

*Volunteers from Wheelchairs for Kids with the Darlington Community donations in 2023.*

## WHAT'S ON

**Darlington Chamber Music Winter Series:**
Concert 3 featuring The Darlington Quartet performing Ledger and Beethoven. Tickets from the Post Office, Nook and Liquor Store, on-line at Humanitix at https://humanitix.com.au or at the door on the day.

**DRRA Community meeting:**
The usual monthly meeting in the Hall at 7.30 on Thursday July 11th.

**Winter Concert:**
A not-to-be-missed opportunity to hear some of the best young musicians in our region strut their stuff. See advert elsewhere in this edition. At $20 for full price, $10 concession, this would have to be the best value music event for many years. In aid of the Robert Juniper Award for the Arts.

**DRRA Community Conversation:**
In the Hall at 7.30 on Thursday 8th August - see page 11 for more information.

Well, that's it from me for this month. Trea will be covering the next edition before she departs on her annual pilgrimage to the grandies in Boston, Mass. As I write this, the winter rains seem to have set in with encouraging intensity, Nyaania Creek has started flowing at last, and the plants in gardens and bush that have survived our recent record dry spell have a chance to recover.

Let us hope that, come the Spring, hot, dry days will just be an unpleasant memory and we can look forward with confidence to a glorious wildflower season!

Chris Durrant | July Editor

# Letter to the Review

## Large SUVs and the planet

*(name and address provided)*

**Congratulations to May editor Sarah Brookes for highlighting the problem of the growing number of supersized SUVs appearing on our sometimes narrow local roads and clogging car parks (Autobesity: Suburban tanks ruin the road).**

The May editor pointed to the need for a government response and Paris-style parking tax. Parisians now charge large vehicles three times more to park in the city than smaller ones.

We need such an initiative to stop the rising sales of SUVs, because record sales have brought warnings from experts that large, heavy vehicles are pushing up carbon emissions.

The International Engergy Agency reports that the rising emissions of SUVs in 2023 made up 20 percent of the global increase in carbon dioxide, making these cars a significant cause of the intensifying climate crisis.

DARLINGTON REVIEW

### Letters to the Review

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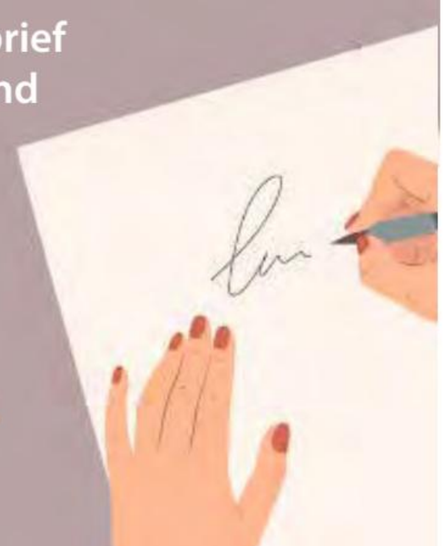
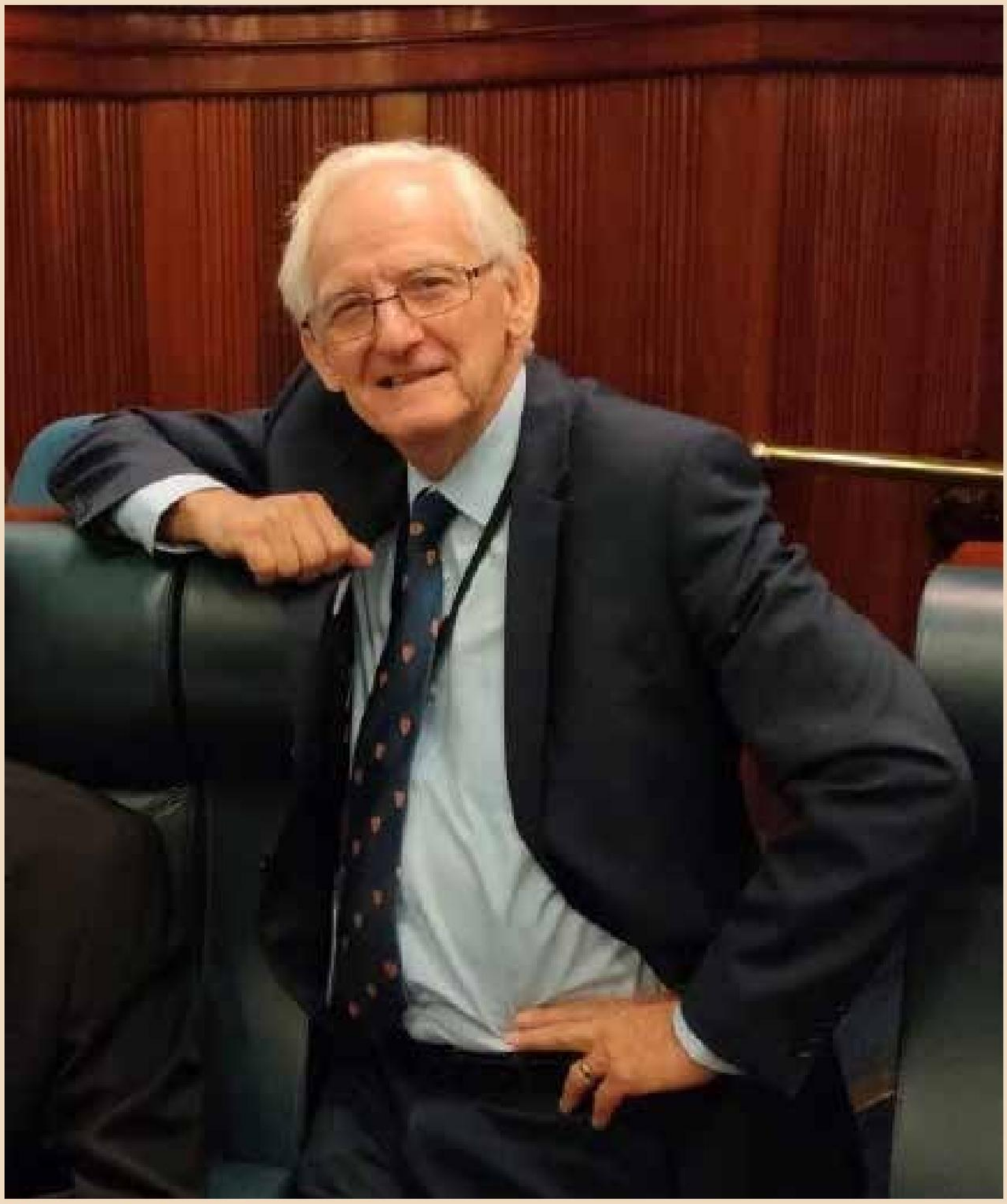


# My Place - Matthew Hughes MLA

**In early 2017, as he prepared to call time, after 21 years, as Principal of John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School, Matthew Hughes was asked if he would be interested in standing as a candidate for the Labor Party at the forthcoming State election for the seat of Kalamunda. His initial response was 'thanks, but no thanks' and that might well have been the end of the matter**



*Matthew Hughes MLA.*

However, the candidate the Party did select had to withdraw at the last minute for personal reasons, so they came back, cap in hand, to Matthew to ask if he would reconsider his decision. Under the circumstances, he felt he had no reasonable alternative to accepting the invitation, quite possibly reflecting as he did so that the chances of success were not all that high, given that his opponent, the incumbent member, John Day, a Darlington resident and minister in the Coalition Government in power at the time, had a reasonable majority and, it was supposed, good local support. Also, there had never previously been a Labor MLA for this electorate. The record shows that Hughes, M. (Lab.) was able to secure more votes than Day, J. (Lib) and Matthew found himself launched on a new and exciting career.

Seven years down the track, and approaching the terminus on the Parliament line, Matthew can look back with some satisfaction on the achievements he has been a part of during that period. He has always, he says, placed great importance on maintaining contact with the electorate and focusing on the issues which matter to the people he represents. One of the first things he did was to move his electorate office to the central Kalamunda Shopping Centre where he was more accessible to the public. Some of the projects he is especially glad to have been a part of are the re-purposing of Kalamunda Hospital for palliative care, the rebuilding of Lesmurdie Primary School, and the first stage of the improvement of Kalamunda SHS, and the extensive revision of the John Forrest Visitor's Centre. On the subject of that last scheme, you may be interested to learn that the otherwise rather perplexing continued closure of the scenic drive in the John Forrest National Park which leaves the highway just opposite the Bilgoman Aquatic Centre, is because of the construction further along it of a new access road to a car park from which the Visitor's Centre and the adjacent café will be reached.

Not all his work has been on local issues. He is proud of his part in helping the Government bring in Voluntary Assisted Dying legislation in WA. He has served on the parliamentary committee which oversees the work of the Corruption and Crime Commission and was also part of a commission looking into improvements in aged care services and their availability, the prime responsibility of the Commonwealth, of course, but needing a good deal of State and Local Government involvement. Progress has been made in this area but there is still much to do. Like all of us who have to deal with bureaucracies and organisations whose attitudes often depend on pressure groups whose interests may not always be the same as those whom the organisation is ostensibly set up to serve, he has often been frustrated when, after months or even years of discussion and planning and agreed compromise, just as the efforts seem to be nearing fruition, somebody changes their mind and the whole thing falls in a heap. Still, that is a fact of political life!

Where to now, after his second retirement? He does not rule anything out, although he did admit, with a smile, that the idea that he had eight years ago of doing a law degree will probably not happen now. Continuing involvement with the community of which he has been an enthusiastic member for over 20 years? Perhaps a role in adult literacy classes? Undoubtedly carrying on sharing (and assisting with) the lives of his ten grandchildren! It does cross my mind that, if you are associated with a local organization that needs a hardworking volunteer with the skills and experience that come after a lifetime as a teacher, education administrator and member of parliament, you could do worse than give Matthew a ring. At least for the next nine months, you will know where to find him!

# Darlington Ratepayers and Residents Association (DRRA)

"Preserving the character of Darlington and safeguarding the interests of its ratepayers and residents - Since 1909"

**Darlington has always been a village of active community groups and this in turn, has shaped the character of the village itself.**

From its settlement in the 1880s, Darlington's residents have played a major role in shaping the community they lived in. When the vineyard that had brought the small village into being was carved into residential blocks in the 1920s, residents purchased the old stone wine cellar and turned it into the village hall. Later prominent members of the community purchased land for the tennis courts and oval. During the 1980s, the community embarked on a decade of raising funds to restore Darlington Hall (with help from the Shire) and went on to restore the mezzanine floor of the one-time art cellar. The Darlington Arts Festival was resurrected in the 1960s as a successful fundraiser for the local kindergarten, with Darlington based artists hanging their work in the hall for sale. Over the years the community has fought long and hard to resist the suburban creep and at times they have bravely stood in front of bulldozers, to retain the charm and natural beauty of the area. In more recent times, the extension of the Community Pavilion and recreation facilities became an ambitious project that was managed by the community - a first in the Shire of Mundaring.

The can-do attitude of residents over many generations has created a great sense of place and a community that constantly aspires to making Darlington an even better place in which to live.

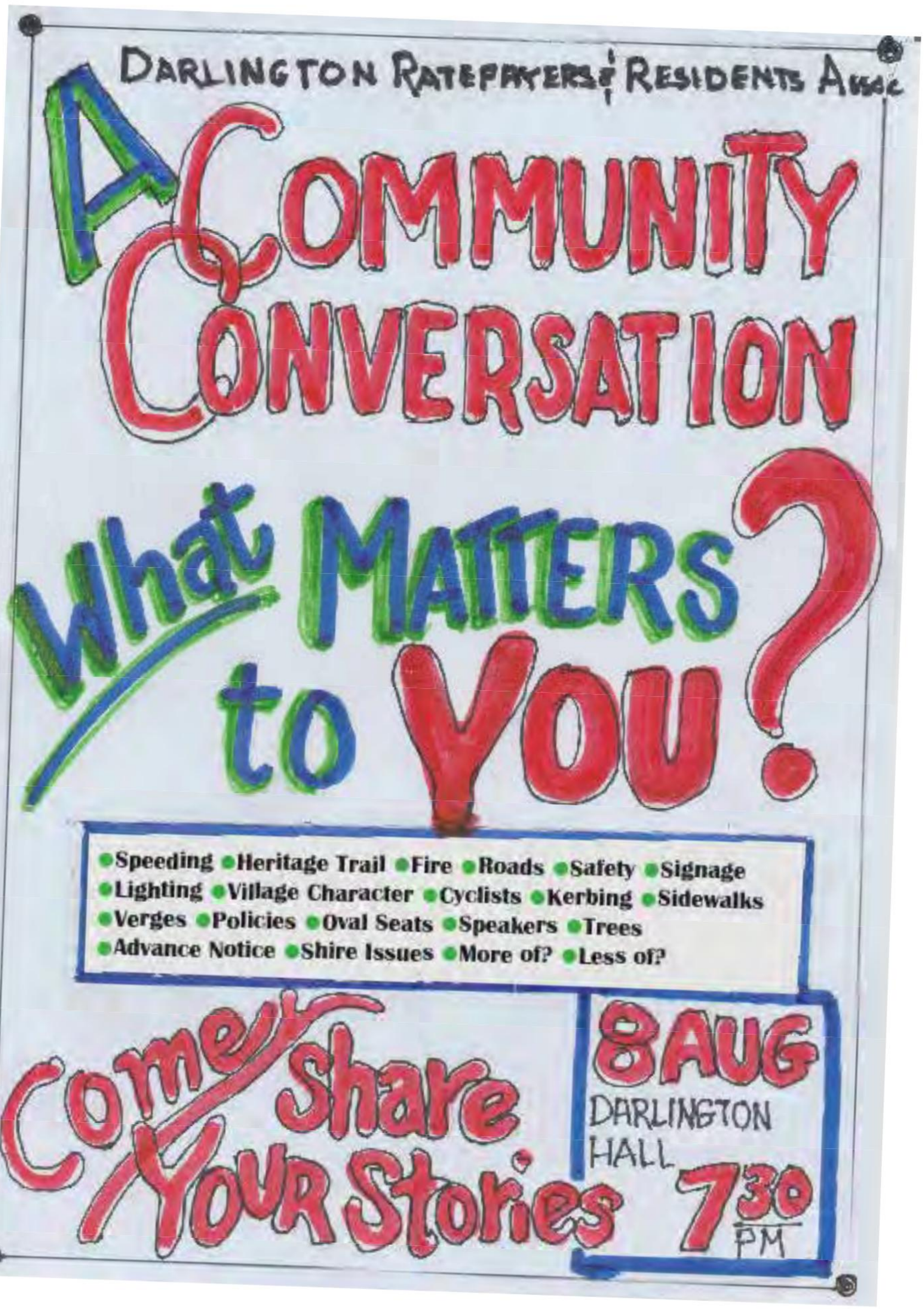
It's true that Darlington people love to talk about Darlington, whether it be while walking the heritage trail, in a café, with the kids at the oval, walking the dogs or at the Post Office. Always, it seems, the talk is about what can we do better, what extra facilities would be nice to have, or what issues drive us crazy and what we need to do about it.

Come and Share your Stories, talk about your big ideas and important issues.

This is a great chance to consider and talk about what Darlington needs and wants.

The Darlington Residents and Ratepayers Association (DRRA) is holding our inaugural, annual COMMUNITY CONVERSATION forum.

We hope you will join your DRRA Committee and local Councillors for a cup of tea or coffee and this first ever Community Conversation.


DARLINGTON RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOC
A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION
What Matters to You?
Speeding Heritage Trail Fire Roads Safety Signage
Lighting Village Character Cyclists Kerbing Sidewalks
Verges Policies Oval Seats Speakers Trees
Advance Notice Shire Issues More of? Less of?
Come Share YOUR Stories
8 AUG
DARLINGTON HALL
7.30 PM

## Thursday, August 8
## at 7:30 pm in Darlington's Lesser Hall

South Ward Councillors will be there to answer your queries.

We all love Darlington so this is a great chance to share our thoughts on what will make it even better. See you there.

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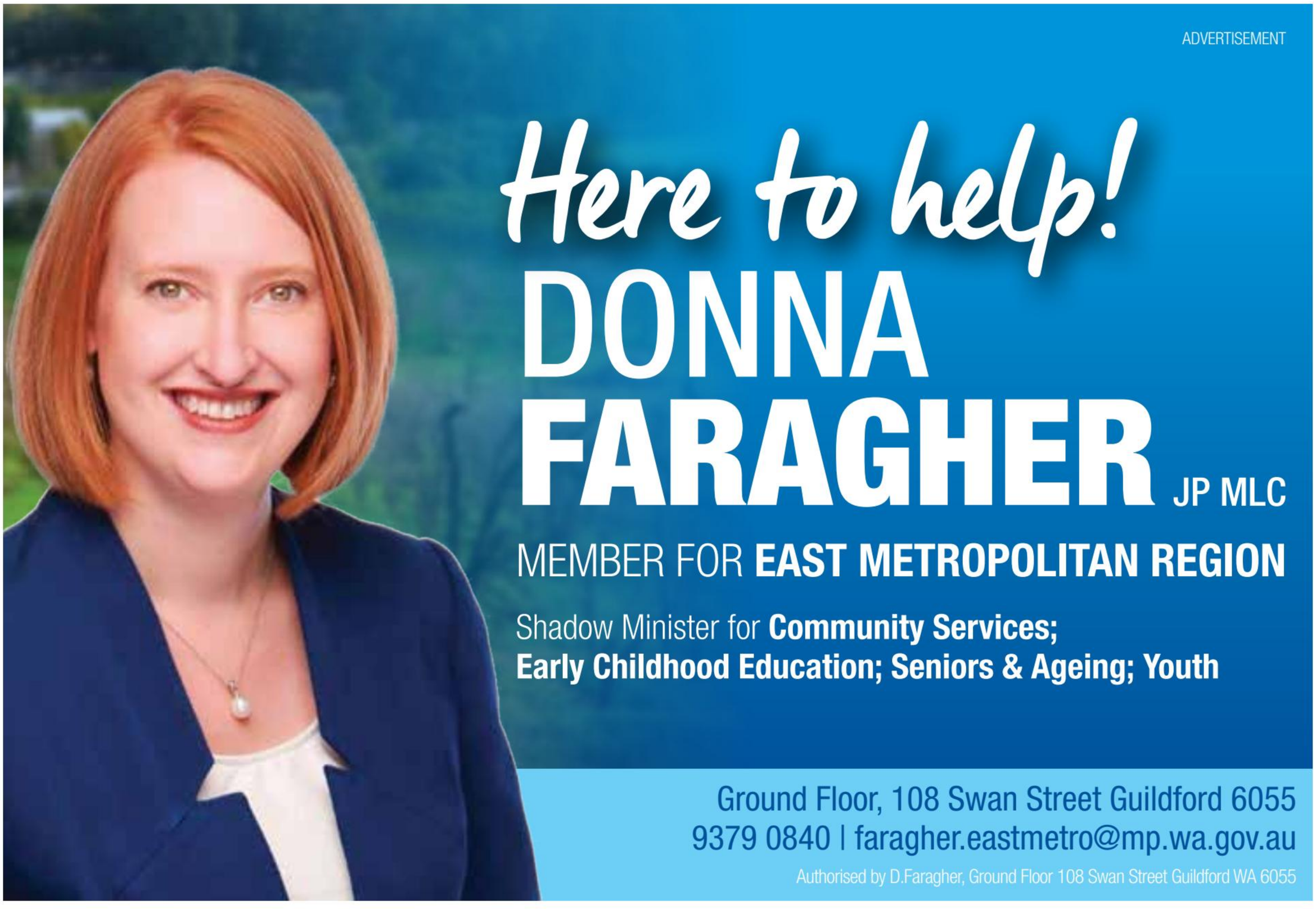

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**DONNA FARAGHER** JP MLC

MEMBER FOR **EAST METROPOLITAN REGION**

Shadow Minister for **Community Services; Early Childhood Education; Seniors & Ageing; Youth**

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9379 0840 | faragher.eastmetro@mp.wa.gov.au

Authorised by D.Faragher, Ground Floor 108 Swan Street Guildford WA 6055

# Donna Faragher JP MLC | Member for East Metropolitan Region

**I am a long-time supporter of Starting Over Support (SOS) and was delighted to host a successful community morning tea recently at Guildford Grammar School with over 80 community members and representatives from a variety of organisations donating 'Buckets of Love' filled with cleaning products and equipment for this wonderful cause.**

SOS is a community initiative of People Who Care dedicated to providing free household goods and furniture to individuals and families, particularly those escaping family and domestic violence who have been referred by women's refuges and other agencies. As part of its mission, SOS is committed to reducing waste and giving donations a new lease of life. Since 2021, SOS volunteers have collected, cleaned, repaired and upcycled over 344,000 kilograms of household goods and furniture for families in need.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended the morning tea or who dropped off donations to my electorate office – the generosity shown by all was incredible. We had enough "Buckets of Love" donations to fill a van!

The event also raised more than $2,200 which SOS will use to purchase new pillows and mattresses for families receiving support.

Starting Over Support is always in need of volunteers to support its work, particularly drivers to pick up and deliver donations to families. If you would like to help SOS please stop by their warehouse at 44 Bonner Drive, Malaga.

You can also visit their Starting Over Support SOSFacebook page or their website at https://www.peoplewhocare.org.au/services-and-initiatives/starting-over-support

# Councillor's Column South Ward | Cr Trish Cook | Shire of Mundaring

**It is the season of Makuru, the time of year frequent gales and storms. This is a great time to prepare your home for wintery weather as well as preparing for the bushfire risk of next summer. Please consider using your new FOGO bins for your leaf litter rather than burning if that is more convenient as the FOGO material is processed into compost to be used in our Shire parks.**

Speaking of FOGO, most people I talk with personally are thrilled with the environmental push for a reduction of expensive landfill waste. I notice on social media however, that there are many unhappy people complaining about the reduction of general waste (red/dark green lid) pickup from weekly to fortnightly. Waste audits have shown our Shire rubbish is 50-60% FOGO material.

The State Government have dictated that as a society we need to reduce our landfill waste or we will pay the price of higher gate fees. Establishment of FOGO is funded by State Government and EMRC grants, while ongoing FOGO – including the addition of a third truck run – will be funded by reduced landfill waste fee. You can help keep your rates down by not contaminating the FOGO bin.

If you have doubts – please put it in the landfill bin. Additionally, please speak to Shire officers regarding your eligibility for the Compassionate Waste Policy or purchase of additional bins.

Perhaps consider making friends with your neighbours who may live alone or have little waste and who may be able to share their existing waste bin with you. I know of one family who are doing this. Win-win-win. And YES, dog poo if it is loose or in a compostable bag can go in the FOGO bin. So it's FOGO + Recycling (yellow) alternating with FOGO + Rubbish (landfill).

We Councillors, who are all residents and rate-payers, are constantly trying to reduce rate increases and scrutinising Shire expenditure to ensure value for money.

Please help us and play your part in helping to keep both rates and environmental emissions down.

**Disclaimer:** The Darlington Review's Rules of Association (2012) read: *"To produce and publish a monthly journal with the intention of fostering good relationships within the Darlington community and keeping residents informed about community issues."* Our *Guide for Scribes* invites members to submit notes "to inform members and the Darlington Community about past, ongoing and future activities…". The Review accepts no liability for errors/omissions contained in articles, statements or advertisements published herein. The views expressed in Letters and Notes are not the views of the Darlington Review and we are not responsible for them. Members are requested to ensure their notes adhere to the magazine's guiding spirit of fostering harmonious community relationships. The Darlington Review is available in digital format via *Issu*, the online website.

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## Tania Lawrence

Your Federal Member for Hasluck

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## Tania Lawrence | Member of Hasluck

**Irrespective of where you sit on the political spectrum, surely Peter Dutton's failure to set a 2030 climate target ahead of the next election is a shocking and shameful betrayal of the needs of the Perth Hills?**

It shows,again, that he doesn't care about the effects of climate change that are playing out in our backyards – hotter, drier summers, more frequent and more catastrophic bushfires for us in the Hills, and elsewhere in Australia; more devastating freak storms, flooding, ruined crops and drought-affected river ecosystems.

Abandoning climate targets invites a return to the denial of climate science and delays in taking the urgent action needed to reduce our carbon emissions.

Instead of showing Australians he is taking climate change seriously, he has decided to put forward a plan for nuclear, to start in 20-30 years' time. And instead of showing Australian businesses that he wants to give them certainty to invest in green energy, he is risking the reputation and the financial capital flows that Australian businesses are working hard to secure. The idea that businesses can cope with flip flopping on targets and policy is ridiculous.

Australian businesses rely on certainty to have the confidence to grow, make investment decisions and employ workers.

We all know that being a green energy superpower is not only possible for our nation, but essential for our future economic and environmental prosperity. It is also cheaper. Up to four times cheaper than nuclear.

The Liberals and Nationals are setting up a false choice for voters, between reaching our Paris targets and addressing the cost of living. We must not be fooled into thinking we should be aiming for one or the other. We can and must address both.

Labor's plan involves delivering on our targets of 43% greenhouse gas emissions reduction and82% of the national electricity market powered by renewable energy by 2030. We are investing $3 billion in green metals, making the essential components of renewable energy here, investing in upgrading our electricity grid, and committing to upskilling our workforce. Labor is delivering programs and measures that business can rely upon.

The Liberals and Nationals, conversely, are opposing economic opportunity, job creation and climate action. Denial and delay is not an acceptable pathway.

# Darlington Community Recreation Advisory Group (DCRAG)

**Delegates recently met and discussed a number of matters relating to there current activities and possible proposed model for working relationship of DRRA, DaSRA and DCRAG.**

It was noted the information had been sent out by Geoff and Chris. A considerable range of ideas, comments and discussions were covered [including some feedback from people who couldn't make the meeting] about the suggested two entity format and the likely roles and functions of them. It was agreed that this "two entity" model appeared to offer a workable way forward in order to achieve the goal of how future Darlington community representation could be structured. The process, started with this workshop, remains in an exploratory phase and another workshop is planned for June to look at past and theoretical future practical examples of how such a structure would work and potentially simplify the progress of future projects and activities.

The History Group projects Heritage Trail and Six Seasons Gardens are progressing, and will be shown in Review for community updates. It was noted that the Shire's Consultant had completed their Recreational study, but members agreed had been very little contact with many of them. Shire have also installed four seats around the oval, and again comment that two of them need to reviewed, as possibly not comfortable to access. Australia Post are providing funds for installing Black Cockatoo nesting boxes through the Helena Catchment Group and Darlington is going to participate in that project.

Colin James | Secretary

# Perth Hills Climate Change Interest Group Inc.

## Electrifying Australia

**The Perth Hills Climate Change Interest Group supports Rewiring Australia's (https://www.rewiringaustralia.org) national drive to electrify Australian homes.**

Research by Rewiring Australia shows that 'household electrification is the fastest and most cost-effective way to reduce emissions and ease cost-of-living pressures by bringing down power bills for good.'

Rewiring Australia proposes that governments provide low-cost finance loans to enable Australians who cannot afford solar and batteries to gain access to this cost-saving benefit. One third of households already have solar and a loan scheme (that also incentivises rental property owners) would help the other 60 per cent of households to gain access to cheaper electricity.

Electrifying Australian homes could be more readily and cheaply achieved if governments diverted funds from the enormous subsidies enjoyed by carbon-polluting gas extractors to self-generated and cheaper solar energy for all Australians.

We encourage Federal and State governments to support the Rewiring Australia initiative to enable all Australians to access the economic and health benefits of solar and batteries. Let your local Member of Parliament know that you support subsidised electrification of all Australian homes.

If you would like to know more about climate topics, why not subscribe to our newsletter on https://phccig.org or join our group?

# Darlington Bushfire Ready Group

**Street contacts held our post season review recently, and thankfully were no fires within or close to Darlington to activate any awareness calls. Other localities certainly had significant impacts, and again demonstrates need to ensure properties maintained with reduced fuel levels just in case.**

Shire CESM noted again this Groups concern on the Fire Danger Rating last year, and impact it has on ability to undertake hazardous reduction burns, due to its change in number of ratings now used, and when HIGH no burning allowed. DFES are reviewing this process but as is a National system in place don't expect any change to it. As the Darlington area, is in Swan Inland North, which includes the Shires of Chittering, Toodyay, Swan and Mundaring, is therefore assessed over those locations.

Shire Bushfire Risk Management Officer noted that the Disastrous Dinners with Red Cross were well attended and encouraging neighbours to come together, some for the first time, and get a Whats App group started. He also mentioned the number of streets within the Shire with only one entry/exit, over 200 metres long. Some are in Darlington and Council will look at what those impacts are, and residents involvements, as access roads have to meet certain standards.

Claire Gurr, DFES Community Preparedness advised all resources still available, and their focus at the moment is on storms(certainly some we have seen already ... so again like for fire, preparation needs to be undertaken).

Brigade Captain advised large number of fires attended, 55, with turn out hours of 1800. DFES supplied two additional Hi Fire vehicles 3.4 and LT, both manned at all incidents for entire fire. Unfortunately due to the extended summer weather, Brigade has been unable to do any reduction burns, and may not do any with no Permits to burn being issued.

Contacts raised a number of queries relating to their streets, and Shire officers present will follow up on them.

With a change in the weather conditions, ability to burn may not be possible, but continual removal of fuel close to homes is also possibly easier to do.

It is never too early to start preparation and if requiring any Bushfire information come down to the Fire Station Saturday mornings between 9.00am and 10.00am.

Colin James | Coordinator 0419 969 223

**Stay alert to what is happening around you, and put your Bushfire Plan in place. If needing any information on what to do around your home, come down to the Fire Station on a Saturday morning between 9.00am and 10.00am.**


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*Daniel – Seller*

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# Darlington Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

**REMEMBER**

**000** is the **ONLY** number to ring for all fire and smoke sightings.

- **The** ComCen **will page our members who are on duty.**
- **For general Brigade enquiries please ring** 9299 7217. Station hours: **Saturday 9am-10:30am.**
  Web: darlingtonfire.org.au • Facebook: **Darlington Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade** • Instagram: **dvbfb_**
- Next Brigade meeting: Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at the Darlington Fire Station.

**After a long, dry summer the wintery weather is finally upon us, and the brisk mornings and cool evenings are again chilling our bones. Many of us rely on our wood fires, gas or electric heaters for comfort and warmth. Each year during the winter months fire services are all too often called out to chimney fires, so now is the time to have your chimneys and flues cleaned by a professional. It will both improve your heater's or stove's efficiency, and also reduce the risk of a fire. Unfortunately, those heat sources are also often the cause of house fires. Remember that your wood fires and heaters should NEVER be left unattended, and flammable materials should be kept well away from open flames and other heat sources. Please be mindful of the location of your heaters and what surrounds them. Ensure things such as drying clothes, curtains and blinds, and furniture are kept at least one metre away from heaters and stoves, and that all heaters are TURNED OFF when you leave your house.**

Due to our long dry summer, as we head towards the heart of winter fires are still burning easily in the bush, and year-round our volunteers continue to make themselves available to protect our community. If you are planning fuel reduction burns on your property, PLEASE take all possible precautions when lighting fires, even in cooler and damper weather, importantly make sure fires are not left unattended, and are fully extinguished. We strongly recommend that you advise your neighbours before lighting up and register your burns with DFES on 9395 9209. The Shire of Mundaring also offers FREE winter burning workshops. These workshops, led by experienced Shire officers and brigade members, can help you learn how to safely reduce fuel loads on your property. To register for upcoming workshops email winterburning@mundaring.wa.gov.au or call 9290 6666. DFES has also created the Burnt Smart programme, complete with a raft of information and resources to help landowners and residents carry out safe and effective planned burns during the milder months. The Burn Smart website provides information, plans and checklists, guides, and resources to help you plan and conduct a burn on your property. Find all the details at dfes.wa.gov.au/plannedburning.

ARE YOU BURNING RESPONSIBLY?
Follow these handy hints when carrying out fuel reduction burns
Please
Be courteous and notify your neighbours prior to burning
Check weather conditions,wind and temperature before burning
Only conduct burns after fine weather, when fuel is at its driest
Have a pressurised garden hose close by, ready for use
Monitor smoke levels
Extinguish thoroughly with water and monitor the site after burning
Never
Burn without a garden hose nearby, ready for use
Burn without a mineral firebreak around the pile
Burn plant material that is still green, partly green or wet
Smother a fire when adding extra fuel. Ensure air flow.
Burn more than you can manage.
Leave the burn site unattended when burning.

Many people do not realise that your sense of smell reduces, and in some cases "switches off" when you sleep. People are not usually woken in the middle of the night by the smell of smoke, but by other factors like noise, flashing light or an increase in heat. So, if you forgot to do it on April 1st, now is a good time to check your smoke alarms, including back-up batteries. If you have young children at home test your smoke alarm so they know what it sounds like, talk to them about what to do if they hear it, and create and practice an evacuation plan for your home in case of an emergency.

WHEN 10 YEARS IS TOO OLD
THE LIVES OF YOUR FAMILY MAY BE AT RISK IF YOUR SMOKE ALARMS ARE MORE THAN 10 YEARS OLD
REPLACE YOUR SMOKE ALARMS EVERY TEN YEARS

Unfortunately, due to the extensions of the Prohibited and Restricted burning periods, and environmental conditions, our hazard reduction burning programme has been substantially delayed this season. And with recent rains we haven't been able to undertake any burns so far. If you have concerns about the fuel load on your property leading up to next fire season, the Darlington Brigade may be able to help. Hazard reduction burns are a great opportunity for our trainee and probationary fire fighters to enhance their training with practical, hands-on experience with fire suppression, and the equipment and methods we use. If you would like assistance with a hazard reduction burn on your property, call the Station on 9299 7217, or visit us on a Saturday morning. An authorised officer will arrange a visit to examine your property, discuss your issues, and provide a quote based on size, fuel load, topography, access, time to burn etc. (note: HRBs are subject to weather and environmental considerations). And speaking of trainees, we always welcome new members, so if you've been thinking about taking up a volunteer role now is an ideal time to join the Darlington Brigade. Activities are undertaken throughout the winter months, and your basic training could be completed in time for the next fire season. If you are interested, please visit the Fire Station on a Saturday morning between 9am and 10am.

*"You have to do something in your life that is honourable and not cowardly if you are to live in peace with yourself, and for the fire fighter it is fire." ~ Larry Brown*

Ricky Harvey

# Darlington History Group

## Once A Vineyard - Darlington Beginnings

**Darlington holds a special place in the hearts of many—a village unlike any other, nestled in the hills on the edge of the Darling Ranges, overlooking the city of Perth in Western Australia.**

The Whadjuk Noongar people are the traditional custodians of this land, nurturing a deep connection for over 45,000 years. With the construction of the Eastern Railway, the landscape underwent a transformation. Its history is deeply connected to the agricultural development of the Darlington vineyard, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Alfred Robert Waylen and the Hon. Josceline George Herbert Amherst. Dr. Alfred Robert Waylen, born at Point Walter, Western Australia, in 1833, was destined to follow in his father's footsteps in the medical profession. Sent to England for his education, Dr. Waylen eventually returned to the colony, where he rose to become the Chief Medical Officer. However, his contributions to the colony extended beyond medicine. With a visionary's eye for opportunity, Dr. Waylen selected and purchased 150 acres of land in what is now known as Darlington, identifying the site for its optimal slope, which faced the rising sun, perfect for viticulture. Dr. Waylen's initial endeavour involved planting 24 acres of vines, a monumental task that required extensive clearing. Seeking to expand his venture, realising that partnerships would be key to its success, he advertised shares in the vineyard, gaining the interest of the Hon. Josceline Amherst. Amherst's involvement brought not only financial investment but also additional prestige to the enterprise, aiding its growth and expansion.

Under Dr. Waylen's and Hon. Amherst's stewardship, the vineyard flourished, expanding to encompass 45 acres of vines and building the significant blue granite wine cellar which is the genesis for the landmark Darlington Hall as we know it today.

You can read more detail in our book promoted below. Information and photograph sourced from, "The Original Darlington Vineyard", Cliff Burns & Arlene Collings.

## Heritage Trail Nomination

Recently DHG received correspondence from the Heritage Council that our nomination of the Eastern Railway Stage 2 which comprises part of the very popular heritage trail between Bellevue and Chidlow's Well, would move on to the next stage for assessment for inclusion on the State Register. The nomination covers a wide array of historical elements, including cuttings, embankments, sidings, platforms, loading ramps, bridges, station infrastructure, culverts, and spur lines. Congratulations to the DHG for their dedication and hard work on this project. We hope that our efforts ensure that our cultural heritage is preserved and appreciated for generations to come.

## DAF Fundraising - Bric-A-Brac Donations

With the cooler weather its now a great time to declutter. We are on the lookout for any of your unwanted bric-a-brac items, especially any photo frames larger than A4 to be put to good use for fundraising efforts at the upcoming Darlington Arts Festival.

Please call Christine 0490 793 015 to arrange pickup.

## Discover The Rich Heritage Of Darlington

Whether you're a history enthusiast or simply curious about the early beginnings of Darlington, "The Original Darlington Vineyard: The Historical Story" by Cliff Burns and Arlene Collings is a captivating book.

Burns and Collings skilfully trace the establishment of the Darlington name, delving into the vineyard's historical roots and the community's evolution. The narrative goes beyond just the vineyard, shedding light on the creation of the community hall and recreation area, which have been integral to the village and social fabric of Darlington. What sets this book apart are the numerous photographs, detailed maps, and fascinating newspaper cuttings that accompany the text.

Pick up your copy today for $12.00 from The Hive, Little Nook Cafe, Darlington Post Office, Mundaring Tourism Centre, or Contact Cliff Burns.

## Contact Details

Phone 9299 6696 email: cliffburns@iprimus.com.au

## Wonderful Start to the Walking Season

The first walk (9 June) was a most enjoyable day. After a 5 months break since October it was wonderful to see everyone again. 34 walkers attended a pleasant easy walk through Gnangara Pine Plantation. It was a surprising walk with a combination of pine trees and areas of natural bushlands. The weather was ever threatening but it was kind to us with only a minor shower.

The second walk was in the bushlands of the Kalamunda National Park. It is remarkable that after such a prolonged dry season resulting in trees dying everywhere, the tree canopy and understorey plants have survived remarkably well in the Piesse Valley. More than 30 walkers enjoyed the natural bushland surroundings, but was a little early in the season for wildflower displays.

## The Kangaroo verses the Clergy !!!

A priest, a minister, and a rabbi debated who was best at his job. They each go into the bushlands to attempt to convert a Kangaroo. Later they get together. The priest begins, "I found the Kangaroo, read to him from the Bible and sprinkled him with holy water. Next week is his first communion." The minister said, "I found a Kangaroo by the stream and preached God's holy word. The Kangaroo was so impressed he let me baptize him." They both looked at the rabbi, who was covered in bandages and lying on a hospital bed. He explained, "Looking back, maybe I shouldn't have started with a circumcision."

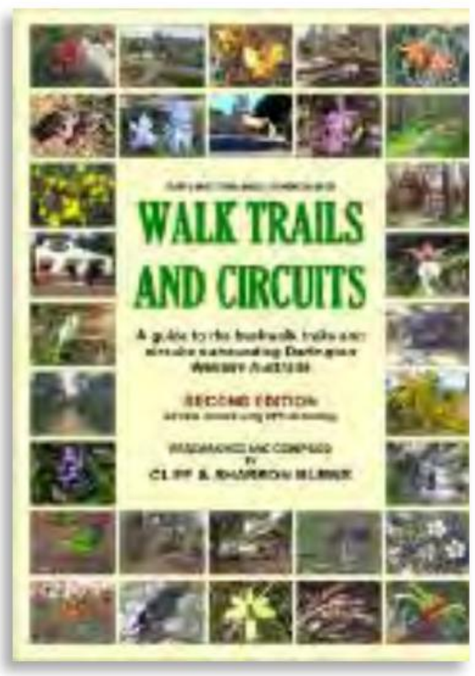
## "Bushwalk News"

Ask to be placed on the "Bushwalk News" email list, and you will receive all the new information "hot off the press".

## All walk bookings by email

Bookings have been very heavy so don't miss out. Simply email Cliff cliffburns@iprimus.com.au for further information or to make a booking. You can book the whole season or individual selected walks.

## Darlington "Walk Trails & Circuits" publication – 2nd Edition




This 26 page book includes almost every trail or track in the Darlington surrounds. For your $10 copy contact Cliff and Sharron.

See you on the track.
***Cliff Burns (Organizer and Guide) 9299 6696***

# Darlington Bush & Variety Walk Series

**BOOKINGS NOW OPEN** (# indicates a new walk)

**Residents invited - Sunday morning bush and variety walks.**

**First in, first served. Book as many walks as you wish.**
**Sunday mornings** ($5 each) **& "Fantastic Forest Escape" Adventure Weekend.**

**For programme, info. & bookings:**

**Email: cliffburns@iprimus.com.au**
**Phone: Cliff Burns 9299 6696**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| June | Sun. 30 | Karragullen Bushlands |
| July | Sun. 7 | # Manning Lake |
| | Sun. 14 | Hewitt's Hill Circuit |
| | Sun. 21 | Baigup Wetlands |
| | Sun. 28 | Yacopetti Bushlands Loop |
| Aug. | Sun. 4 | # Woodman Point - Coogee |
| | Sun. 11 | Canning River East Wetlands |
| | Sun. 18 | # Mount Dale (2 options) |
| | 23 - 26 | FANTASTIC FOREST ESCAPE Adventure |
| Sept. | Sun. 1 | # Mundaring Weir – Helena River Loop |
| | 6 - 9 | FANTASTIC FOREST ESCAPE Adventure |
| | Sun. 15 | # Roleystone Pools, Cascades & Bushlands |
| | Sun. 22 | Grevillea Mycumbene Bushlands |
| | Sun. 29 | Bold park - Floreat |
| Oct. | Sun. 6 | # Kelmscott and Water Channel |
| | Sun. 13 | # John Forest Pk (Litchfield) & WIND-UP |

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### Contact your local MP:

**Kalamunda Office:**
Shop 9, Kalamunda Central
Railway Road, Kalamunda WA 6076

**Mundaring Office:**
Wednesday - Friday 9am to 12
By Appointment only
3/7160 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring
(Next to Patch of Country Cafe)

9293 4747
kalamunda@mp.wa.gov.au
Matthew Hughes MLA

**Community First**

# Glen Forrest Bridge Club (GFBC)

## Welcome to Glen Forrest Bridge Club

**Maybe you have considered learning to play or to renew your interest in the game. Glen Forrest bridge club is a friendly and supportive club that caters to beginners and experienced players.**

For beginners, a very friendly and supportive session is held on Wednesday mornings 9.30am to 11.30am. People can learn to play from scratch, refresh skills, or just play socially without the pressure of competition. No need to feel shy, everyone is made very welcome.

Regular sessions are held on Monday and Wednesday afternoons, learners/social session Wednesday morning.

Fees at our bridge club are very modest and include membership of the Sports Club. After the Monday and Wednesday sessions refreshments are available from the bar to discuss hands play with whoever wishes to stay for a drink.

Membership fees are very modest, $40 per year and $5 per session, or $7 per session without membership. Membership of the bridge club includes membership of the Sports Club which an amazing bonus. With the sports club you can, play bowls or darts. They also have a Ukulele session and have amazing social evenings. There is a bar at the Sports club and some members

like to stop for a social drink and chat after bridge finishes.

Come and try us out if you are at all interested. You could become one of the very keen players who play several times a week.

The Bridge club is located at the Glenforrest Sports Club, 33 Mc Glew Road Glen Forrest.

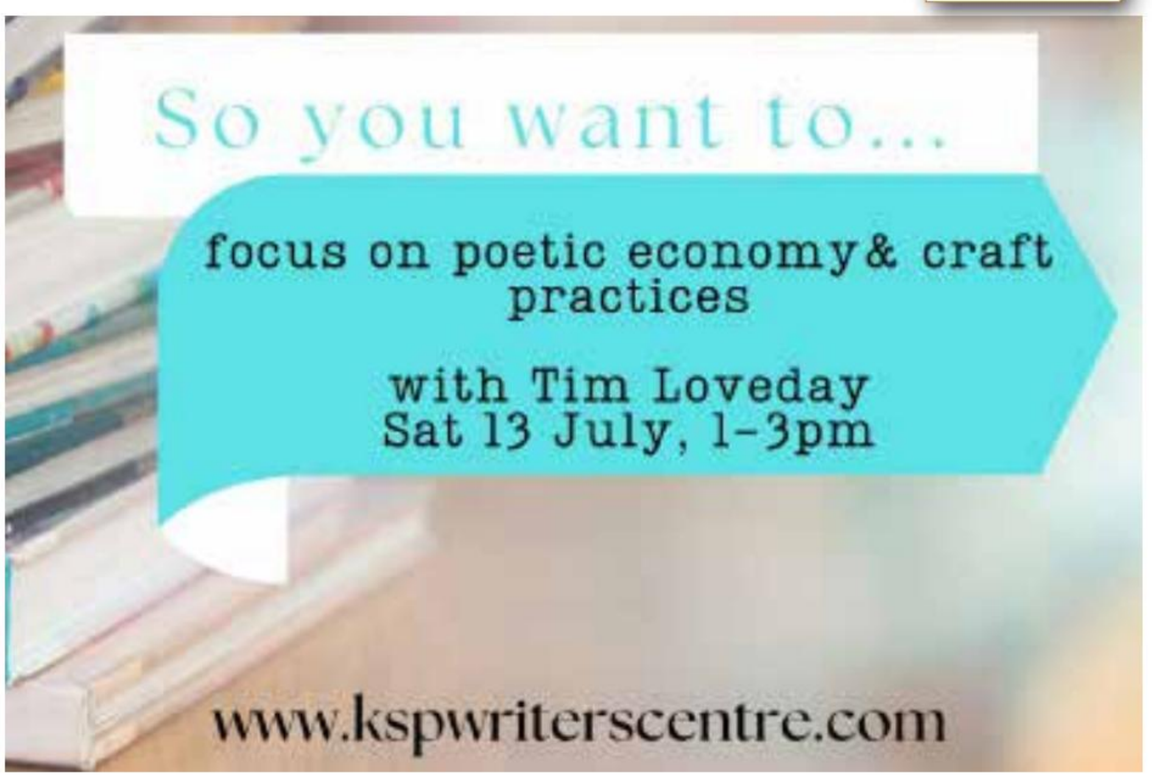
Ring Ronnie 0419 961 711 or look us up at www.glenforrest.bridgeaustralia.org.

# Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers' Centre

### Writing Workshop:
## So You Want to Learn Screenwriting
**Saturday 6 July 2024, 1.00-3.00pm**

Suitable for writers age 11+, interested in learning about the specifics of movie formatting, scriptwriting style, story structure, dialogue and development, and how to turn an idea into a fully realised film script. This workshop is facilitated by Zack Inglis, a creative writer, filmmaker and musician from Perth. Zack mainly writes for screen, in the genre of coming-of-age horror/thrillers, with comedic elements, and compelling characters. In 2019, 'The Light' premiered: an indie feature film that Zack wrote, directed, edited and produced. Costs: $25 members, $40 non-members.

**For more information on our residencies, competitions or other activities please visit the KSP website www.kspwriterscentre.com or phone 9294 1872. KSP Writers' Centre is proudly sponsored by the Shire of Mundaring.**




### Writing Workshop:
## So You Want to Focus on poetic economy and craft practices
**Saturday 13 July 2024, 1.00-3.00pm**

How do you choose the precise details? What is vital, and what can be left out? How do you generate these ideas? What does craft really look like? Utilising poetic economy and critical editing practices, learn how to harness each word, and shrink each of your scenes to their essential poignant details. Suitable for beginner to intermediary poets and writers interested in poetic economy and broad editing and craft practices. This workshop is facilitated by Tim Loveday, an award-winning poet, writer, and editor. In 2022 he won the Dorothy Porter Poetry Award. In 2023 he was shortlisted for the David Harold Tribe Poetry Prize and Wyndham Flash Fiction Prize. His work has been widely published. Tim teaches Poetry and Performance at RMIT. Costs: $25 members, $40 non-members.

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# Mundaring and Hills Historical Society

## Return to Sender

**Mundaring District Museum's next exhibition is titled 'Return to Sender'. It will open on Friday 12 July 2024. It will explore the history of the post offices in the Shire of Mundaring. Post Offices have played an important role in the social and economic development of our localities and continue to do so today. Methods of communication such as the handwritten letter, telegrams and later telephone, were vital in the early development of communities. Hence, the establishment of a post office was a priority.**

The exhibition will showcase photographs of the post office buildings through the decades, as well as some of the stories connected to the people who operated them. On display will be telephones, handwritten letters and various memorabilia celebrating past and present services provided by the post office.

It is hoped that through this exhibition new historical information, photographs and stories will be discovered. These do not have to be decades old as current information is tomorrow's history. We continue to develop our collection and invite the community to assist us with documenting our history.

RETURN TO SENDER
30
Mundaring District Museum
In the old school house
7225 Great Eastern Hwy, Mundaring
An exhibition on the history of the Shire of Mundaring's Post Offices
12 July 2024 - 28 February 2025
curator@mundaringhistory.org
9295 0540
Mundaring & Hills Historical Society

## Competition - Find the Mail Truck

There will be a competition for visitors to locate the five replica mail trucks which will be located somewhere in the museum. Each month the first winning entry pulled out of the exhibition letterbox will be awarded a small prize. The exhibition will be open from 12 July 2024 until 28 February 2025.

We are seeking donations or loans of:

- 'postie' bicycle
- A mail bag or basket. (often these were attached to the bike or sometimes just carried by the Postman)
- Any PMG memorabilia

Please contact our Curator Tracy at Mundaring and Hills Historical Society if you have any items that relate to the postal service in Mundaring.

Phone: 9295 0540
Email: curator@mundaringhistory.org

# Forrest Darlings CWA

**Huge thanks to everyone who played a part in the success of our Biggest Morning Tea in aid of the Cancer Council at the Glen Forrest Sports Club. We had over 35 people come to support us to raise $1100 for this wonderful cause.**

We would like to thank the following sponsors and supporters whose contributions in kind and raffles prizes helped us to raise such a fantastic amount.

- Glen Forrest Sports Club
- M.C. Cabinets and Furniture
- Ella Hackleton Photography
- Darlington Liquor & Gourmet
- Two Birds - behind the Post Office
- The Little Nook
- Helena Valley Pharmacy
- Indi Arts and Design
- Swan View Massage
- Natalie Massage Therapy
- Jigsaw Anonymous Kalamunda
- Glen Forrest Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
- Trudy Cox

## Grant Success

We are delighted to have received a Milestone Grant from the Shire of Mundaring for $1,681.25 in May. The money will be used to host an appreciation event for all past and present members of CWA branches across the Shire of Mundaring. 2024 marks the 100 year anniversary of the CWA of WA, and this event will celebrate the achievements and contributions of members across the years. If you are a current or former CWA member residing in the Shire of Mundaring, please get in touch for your personalised invitation. Save the date: Saturday 19 October.

*Biggest Morning Tea raffle and (right) Sally at the Biggest Morning Tea.*

Forrest Darlings is a friendly branch of the Country Womens Association which meets monthly at Darlington Pavilion.

**Next meeting:**
**Wednesday 17th July 7pm**

For more information follow Forrest Darlings CWA on Facebook or call Treasurer Jen Woods 0417 173 478

## Harold of the Hills

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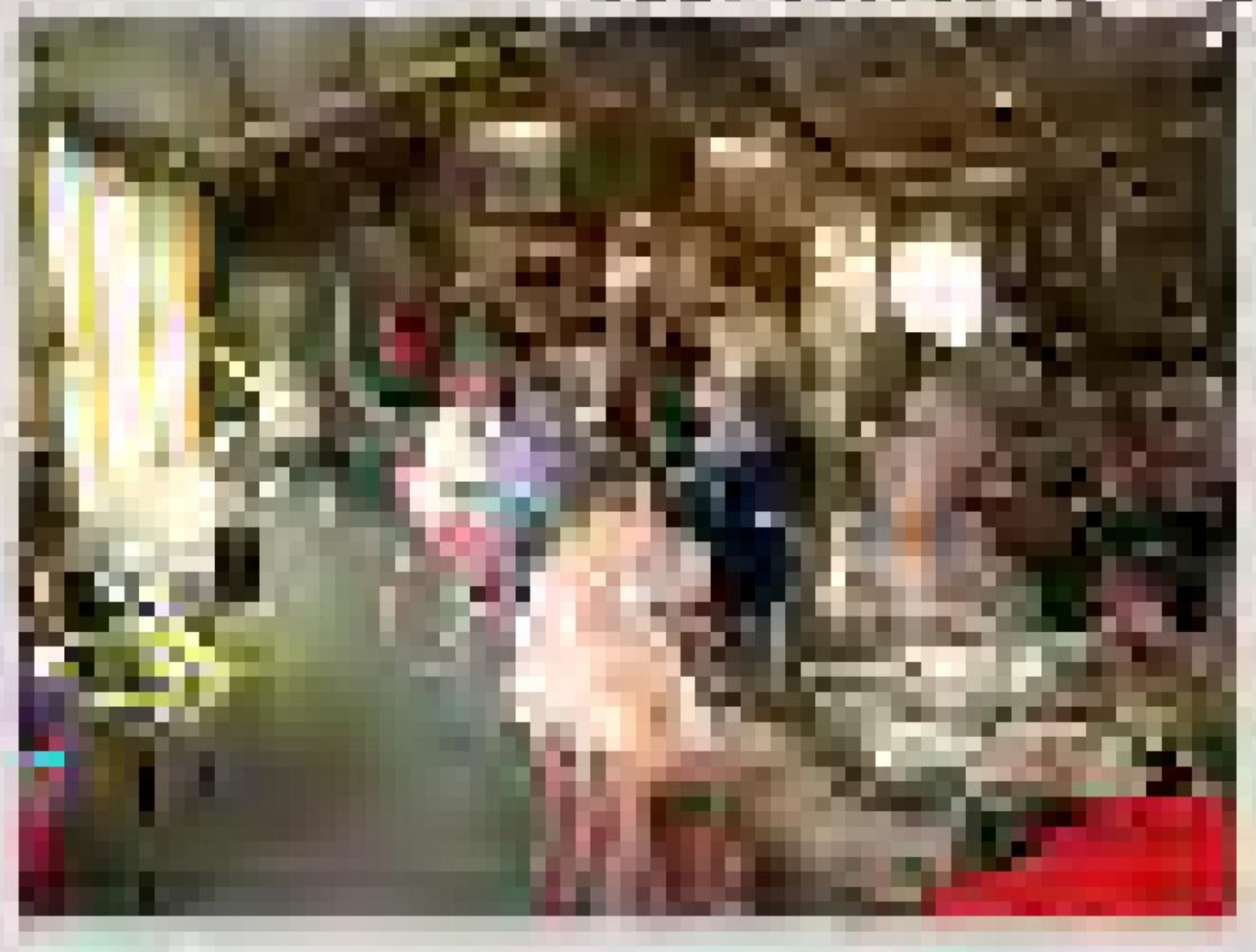

# Darlington Arts Festival

**The Darlington Arts Festival, held annually on the first weekend of November, is a weekend filled with music, performers, art, artisan stalls, food trucks, kids workshops, rides, visual arts, outdoor sculpture and more!**

The Festival is delivered 100% by volunteers and in its 70s now - it is a truly unique event to be part of, whether you are entering art, selling something, joining in the fun over the weekend or volunteering your time.

## What's new...

- Sculpture On The Scarp entries are now open with indoor art opening soon. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to find out more.
- We are busily working on funding applications. If you know of a grant that we should be applying for – get in touch!
- In a few short weeks the Festival will have a brand new website! This will be the place to go to find out everything you need to know about the event.

## We need you...

Whether you have a few hours or a few days spare – we need your help! Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, feel connected and make a contribution to something super special! It's also a great way for students to clock up those service learning/volunteer hours some schools require.

There are lots of different roles we need volunteers for:

- graphic design
- flyer delivery
- setting up and pulling down event infrastructure (tents/chairs/signage etc)
- assisting the Sculpture on the Scarp Coordinator
- doing a shift in the wine tent bar
- supervising the art exhibitions on the weekend

Register to be a volunteer by emailing volunteers@darlingtonartsfestival.com and be part of the largest, volunteer-run community festival in Perth.

# Baha'i Community of Mundaring

Mundaring Baha'i Community
CONVERSATION * CONNECTION * COMMUNITY *
COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS
Join us for a relaxed morning to connect with friends old and new.
Enjoy meaningful conversations over coffee and croissants about important community topics.
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Saturday 13 July
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# St Cuthbert's Anglican Church | cnr Darlington and Hillsden Roads, Darlington

## PLANNING A ONCE IN A LIFETIME CELEBRATION

A small but dedicated team of parishioners have been meeting to plan the upcoming centenary celebrations of the St Cuthbert's church building. The intention is to run a series of events over six months spanning the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone on 13th September 1923 to the centenary of the consecration of the completed building on 1st March 1925.

We have an early draft of what the programme might look like with some suggested dates. We hope that past and present residents of Darlington will join us in celebrating the life of the little church that has been the centre of celebration and blessing, heartache and farewells, music and teaching, sharing and reaching out beyond its walls. It has served us well - and we are so grateful.

## IDEAS TO DATE

| | |
|---|---|
| Saturday 14 September: | A Garden Party in the grounds of the church - we always love a party. |
| Saturday 28 September: | A Pilgrimage walk around the trails of Darlington |
| Friday 18 October: | A sausage sizzle supper followed by a concert in the church by our young musicians |
| 2-3 November: | A Festival of Flowers in the church and displays in the parish centre. |
| December: | Nine Lessons and Carols and Christmas services |
| Late January: | History Day, invited speaker and access to archives. |
| February: | Organ Recital. |
| Sunday 2 March 9am: | Service of celebration with the Archbishop presiding. |

# Welcome to centenary celebrations at St Cuthbert's

## WORSHIP IN THE STYLE OF TAIZE

## 6.30PM ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

## FAREWELL TO REV'D JULIE, MARCUS, LIZZIE AND CHARLOTTE

On Sunday 9 June the parish farewelled The Reverend Julie Baker and wished her well in her new position at St Bartholomews House in East Perth. St Bart's is a not-for-profit provider of accommodation and outreach services for Western Australians experiencing homelessness, mental health challenges, trauma and hardship. We are sure Julie will do a sterling job as Manager of Chaplains. The Parish will miss Julie, Marcus, Lizzie and Charlotte and sincerely thank them for the time spent with us in Darlington.

**Rector:** T: 0459 471 894
E: rector@hillsanglicans.com

Parish Office: 6292 0074
Email: info@hillsanglicans.com
Mail: PO Box 77 Darlington, WA 6070
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Find us on Facebook at Hills Anglicans
Website: www.hillsanglicans.com

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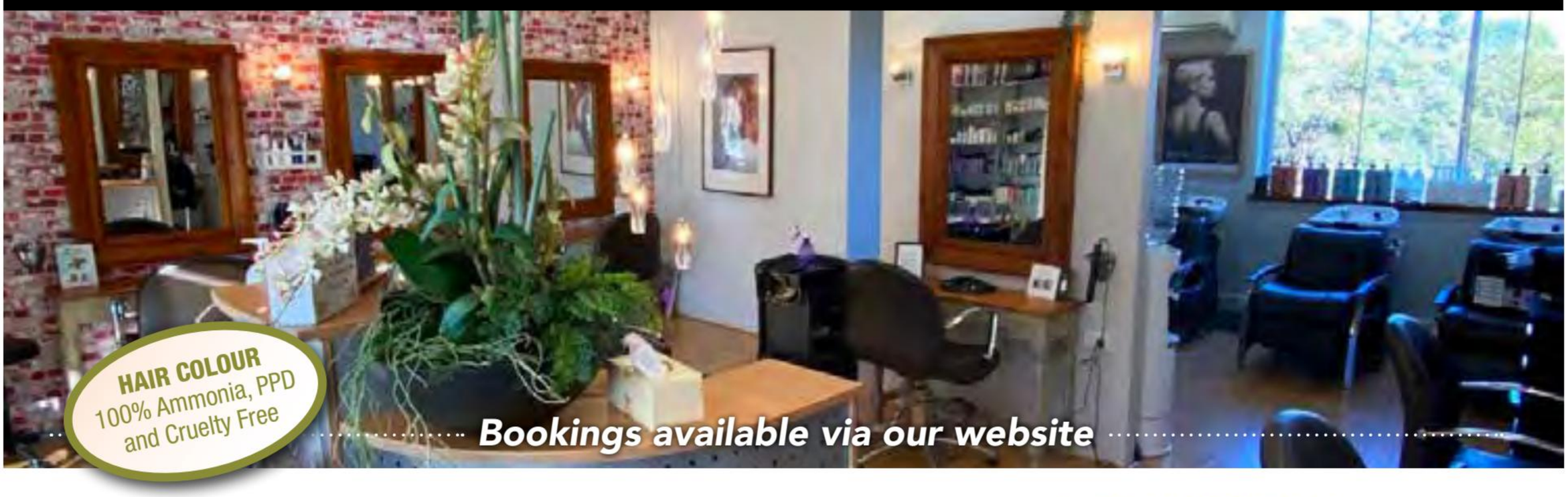


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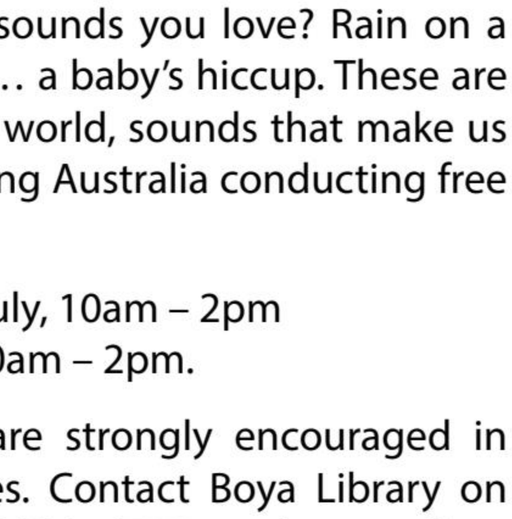
## Looking to Join a Book Club?

If you are looking to join a book club, there are vacancies in four of our library book clubs. All clubs meet once a month and there is an annual fee of $30. At Boya Library, one club meets on Wednesday morning and the other on Wednesday evening. At Mundaring Library, one club meets on Monday morning and the other on Friday morning. If you are interested in joining, or would like further details, please call Boya Library on 9290 6755 or email gills@mundaring.wa.gov.au or Mundaring Library on 9290 6780 or email mills@mundaring.wa.gov.au

## Your Farewell Wishes with Julie Carlton

**Boya Library, Thursday 18 July, 10am to 12pm**




Start the conversation about what type of funeral, memorial or celebration of life you want to have. This workshop aims to empower you to embrace your own identity, creating an end-of-life plan that truly reflects your wishes and the unique person you. Bookings are essential for this free event at https://180724b.eventbrite.com.au

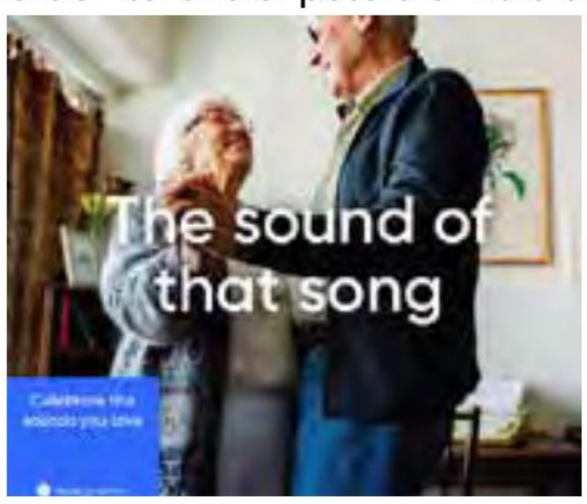
## Hearing Checks for Adults

**with Hearing Australia**

Could you be missing any of the sounds you love? Rain on a tin roof… early morning bird calls… a baby's hiccup. These are the sounds that connect us to our world, sounds that make us happy. We're pleased to host Hearing Australia conducting free *hearing checks for adults at:

- Mundaring Library, Friday 19 July, 10am – 2pm
- Boya Library, Friday 26 June, 10am – 2pm.

Bookings are not required, but are strongly encouraged in order to avoid possible wait times. Contact Boya Library on 9290 6755 or by email at gills@mundaring.wa.gov.au or Mundaring Library on 9290 6780 or by email at mills@mundaring.wa.gov.au




*A hearing check is a screening that helps identify people that may have hearing lo.

## Emotion Coaching Your Child

**Boya Library, Thursday 25 July, 10am to 12pm**

Shire of Mundaring Libraries is pleased to host this workshop presented by Midvale Hub Parenting Service Perth (North East). The workshop is for parents of children aged 3-10 years. It aims to support parents to gain an understanding of the types of emotions present in ourselves and our children, and how this can be supported within the home environment to develop emotional intelligence.

(Parents may bring babies under five months, but this session is not suitable for children to attend.)

## Children's Program Dates – Term Three

Story and Rhyme Times and LEGO Club take a break for the school holidays. The last session of LEGO Club is Thursday 27 June and resumes on Thursday July 18. Baby Rhyme Time and Story Time finish up on Friday 28 June. Sessions resume from Tuesday 16 July.

Baby Rhyme Time sessions start at 9.30am and Story Time sessions at 10.30am. Boya Library sessions are on Wednesdays and Fridays. Mundaring Library sessions are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. LEGO Club is for six to12-year-olds, and meets at Mundaring Lesser Hall on Thursdays from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

## A History of Plastics: Past, Present and Future

**Boya Community Centre, Wednesday 24 July, 1pm-2.30pm**

Ever wondered about the story of plastics? Are you curious about how this material has shaped our current world and what holds for its future? Join sustainability educator Laura Monisse for an engaging session on plastic: its past, its present uses and issues, and its future. We will look at how plastics have evolved, their impact on humans, health, technology and the environment, and discuss ideas for a more sustainable future. Bookings essential for this free event at https://240724b.eventbrite.com.au

*Image Credit: Photo by Peter Stackpole, staged to illustrate an article on "Throwaway Living"", LIFE magazine, August 1, 1955 © Getty / Photo: Peter Stackpole*

# Darlington Chamber Music - Winter Series 2024

**Ledger and Beethoven: two centuries apart,**
**two innovative and brilliant composers,**
**two experinces for you to enjoy on**
**Sunday JULY 7 at 3pm in the Darlington Hall**

**BEETHOVEN**

**The last two years of Beethoven's life (1825-1827) were almost completely given over to writing string quartets. The monumental work, Opus 130 and 133, represents the last half of the year 1825. It was written for and dedicated to Prince Nikolai Galitzin.**
**Opus 130 in its original version, with the Grosse Fuge Opus 133 as its finale, represents the pinnacle of Beethoven's Late Style dramatic language, and as one work it is the longest of Beethoven's quartets clocking in at more than 51 minutes.**
**It can be said to represent the ultimate expansion of the string quartet to the possible limits of its scope. Indeed, this piece as a whole was completely unprecedented in its time, and remains inimitable in its depth and profundity.**

**JAMES LEDGER: Composer and lecturer in composition at the Conservatorium of Music, UWA.**
**As a contemporary composer, James is known for his innovative approach, often blending traditional techniques with modern elements and exploring new textures and sounds. His compositions feature intricate structures and sophisticated use of harmony and rhythm.**
**His works span a breadth of work including solo, chamber and orchestral music. His first orchestral work *Indian Pacific* from 1996, is regularly performed around Australia. He won APRA Art Music Awards for his violin concerto *Golden Years* (2014) and the orchestral work *Chronicles* (2010). In 2012, he collaborated with songwriter Paul Kelly on *Conversations with Ghosts*. The album won an ARIA award. 2019 saw the premiere of *Thirteen Ways to Look at Birds* - a new song-cycle by Ledger and Kelly which won Ledger and Kelly their second ARIA award.**

THE DARLINGTON QUARTET
DARLINGTON HALL
JULY 7 @ 3PM

JAMES LEDGER: String Quartet No 4
*Small and Great Distinctions.*
A world premiere.

BEETHOVEN: String Quartet Op 130
and *Grosse Fuge* Op 133

Violins: Semra Lee
Zak Rowntree
Viola: Sally Boud
Cello: Jon Tooby

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ADULT: $50
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U 18: $25

# Marloo Theatre Abuzz With Activity

**Marloo Theatre has been alight with activity in recent months and there is no signs of slowing down anytime soon. Below is a snapshot of what has currently happening at the theatre as well as a breakdown of what's to come!**

## Young Frankenstein's Electrifying Season

The Mel Brooks Musical 'Young Frankenstein' closed on June 29th. With stellar performances, a sold out season and incredible reviews, the season was a resounding success for all involved.

Theatre publication Stage Whispers regarded the show as 'one of Perth's top community theatre productions of 2024'. A huge congratulations to director Terence Smith, Musical Director Tara Oorjitham, Choreographer Sophie David along with the entire Cast, Production Team and Crew on an incredible show!

## Mother Goose On The Loose

Marloo will return to the wonderful world of Pantomimes for the end of this year, presenting the premiere performance of 'Mother Goose on the Loose' written and directed by Taneal Thompson. With a melting pot of nursery rhyme characters, some dastardly villains and some good old fashioned panto fun, this is set to be a delight for all ages. Auditions will be taking place in mid August so keep an eye on the Marloo social pages and website for details.

## One Act Season

The next season at Marloo is not far away with a series of four one act plays set to take to the stage in late August. 'Cut' directed by Harrison Ricci, 'The Red House Monster' directed by Brianna Thompson and Georgia Stidwell, 'Bittersweet Lullaby' directed by Kieran Ridgway and 'Dinner for One' directed by Ray Egan are set to delight, thrill and entertain audiences. The one act season has become an audience favourite at Marloo with the opportunity for new directors, performers, writers and scripts to take to the stage. And with four plays included with your ticket, it is set to be great value entertainment for all.

## 2025 Seasons

We are delighted to announce the first two seasons that will be gracing the Marloo stage in 2025.

'She Kills Monsters', written by Qui Nguyen and directed by

Connie Wetherilt is a fantastical adventure which follows Agnes Evans who loses her parents and sister Tilly in a car accident. As tribute, Agnes embarks on an adventure by playing a Dungeons and Dragons module that Tilly had written, discovering things she'd never imagined. This thrilling adventure will feature as the first season in February.

'Shrine', written by Tim Winton and directed by Chris McRae is a searing drama which delves into how we try to own the dead and how the dead own us. A year after losing their son Jack in a road accident, Mary and Adam Mansfield are living with the impact of trauma. As the past comes back to haunt them, a domestic heartbreak unravels in a rocky landscape inhabited by ghosts. The deep drama will take to the stage in May.

There is plenty to look forward to at Marloo Theatre. To keep up to date with everything at the theatre, be sure to follow us online at the links below and head to our website to join our mailing list.

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**Instagram: @marlootheatre**
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**In the season of Makuru we are finally enjoying some rain and chilly mornings. The relief shown by the garden is a pleasure to see. Nothing benefits the plants like rain from the heavens.**

Our Natures Nurturers are working so hard to achieve their habit tracker requirements, we are proud to say we have presented more beautiful certificates to Emilie, Indianna, Evelyn, Ben, Xavier, Emma and Scarlett. Nothing makes us happier than seeing the children achieve these and seeing them checking their books to keep our Educators accountable for signing off the habit trackers.

Term Two at Hosca was a whirlwind of wonderful activities, we have been gardening (of course), we have had a great season for lettuce and have been using lots in the kitchen, our beetroot relish was delicious, and we have been experimenting with many bush tucker infused recipes. We were donated an abundance of strawberries so of course we had to make jam so as to not waste them, and it is the best!

In the recycling corner, all of our used paper gets turned into paper mud, which gets added to our worm farms, Max is enthusiastic to ensure no sticky tape or plastic gets into the mix, thanks Max. We also have a 10c bin if you have any bottles or cans we would appreciate your donations. So much of our craft is using recycled materials now, the children are incredibly creative and are experts at turning a mere box into a work of art.

We have been loving the change to Nyaania creek, which we regularly frequent. Now we have water flowing bringing a change to the life we notice around it, it also makes it a bit

slippery and it isn't uncommon to get a bit wet while we explore, but this just adds to the appeal of visiting the creek.

We are also excited to add Fire Pit Fri-yay back onto the program, one of the best bonding tools we have is sitting around the fire sharing stories and experiences, usually while cooking something, we have tried marshmallows, popcorn, potatoes, damper, brewing tea and we are always up for some new flavours.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Book Cafe for children & adults | Tuesday 9 July | 9.30am to 11.30am**
Join guest speaker John from Guide Dogs WA, along with Ambassador dog Greg. There will be free kids activities, raffle, home-made morning tea for $2 as well as free tea and coffee. Purchase good quality childrens and adults books. All money raised from morning tea, book sales and the raffle will be donated to Guide Dogs WA.

**Coffee Morning Conversation | Tuesday 23 July | 10am**
At this presentation by Meningitis Centre Australia learn about Pneumococcal disease, which refers to a range of illnesses that affect various parts of the body and are caused by infection with the bacterium streptococcus pneumoniae. Immunisation can substantially reduce the risk of infection, particularly for high risk groups such as those aged over 70 years. *RSVP to Rachael by Friday 19 July.*

**Soup Morning | Tuesday 13 August | 11am | $2**
The Active Ageing Network, a group of older volunteers, will be supplying home made soup with bread directly after the Coffee Morning.

The Hub of the Hills, 8 Craig Street, Mundaring
9290 6683 | cso4@mundaring.wa.gov.au | Officer present are:
Tuesday 8.30am to 11.30am | Wednesday 9am to 12pm | Thursday 10am to 2pm

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# The Darlington Club

**We had a good crowd to our soup night at the club. All different home made soups, with crusty bread, and chocolates to follow. Lots of singing and laughter.**

Photos of our Winter Solstice night on the 21st June will be in the next edition.

It will be school holidays in July, and the club will be closed. Once these are finished we will have our AGM on the 19th July. Come along and support the club, or if you are a new member it's a good chance to join and meet our members.

Most people know our member, Uma, as she is legendary for her curries. Uma and club members will be making curries on the 26th July for the Glen Forrest Sporting Club. This will be a fund raising night, so enjoy a curry and the great atmosphere at the Sporting Club in front of the warm fire.

Please ring if you are wanting a Membership forms to join the club. It's a great place to get to know people and make new friends.

For existing members please remember fees are due now, so please pay to the account below with your surname in the reference area.

Looking forward to seeing you all on our Friday nights.

Fees to join are $20 per person or $40 for two or family. Payee The Darlington Club Inc. BSB 633 000, Account 124527748. Reference Surname and Subs.

## Coming Events:

**The Club opens at 6.30pm every second Friday at Darlington Lesser Hall. BYO drinks and nibbles.**

| | |
|---|---|
| July 5th | Closed - School Holidays |
| July 12th | Closed - School Holidays |
| July 19th | AGM |
| July 26th | Curry Night at Glen Forrest Sporting Club |

**Contact Sue on 0439 273 213 or email susanlavell10@gmail.com**
**or Sue Bennetts, Secretary on 0407 920 930 email garrysue24@iinet.net.au**

# Darlington Dibbler Girl Guides

## Inspiring girls to discover the best in themselves and make positive contributions to their community

The Darlington Dibblers have had some outdoor adventure fun, participating in state archery day. We have also been working towards our tent badge. The girls have been compiling lists of what to bring camping which included a fun game of camping bingo. We set up the tents for some practise for region camp in August. This term we have also been amercing ourselves in Science. The girls constructed paper mâché volcanos and watched them erupt!! And they are very much looking forward to our 'Mad Scientist' themed sleepover at the hall.

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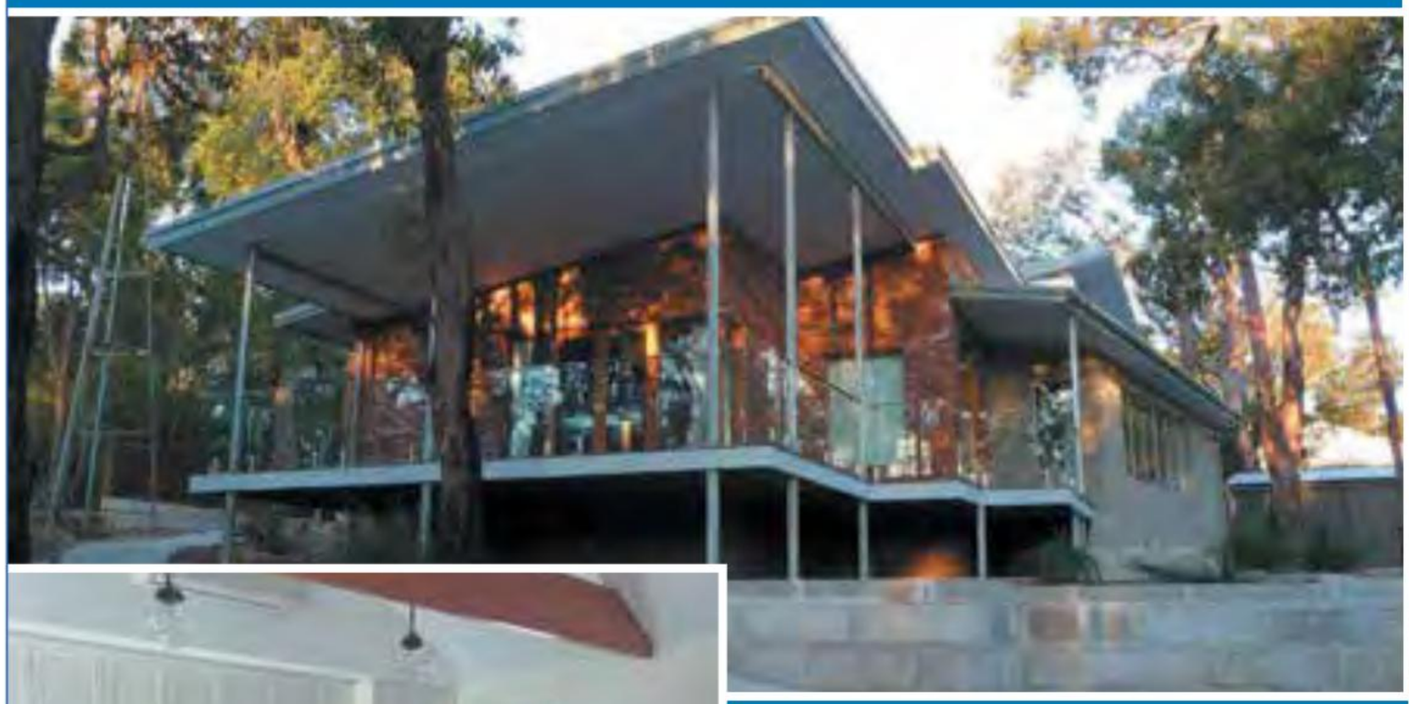

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Joey Scouts ages 5-8

Cub Scouts ages 8-11

Scouts ages 11-14

Venturer Scouts ages 14-18

Rover Scouts ages 18-25

Adult Volunteers ages 18+

**It's been a busy month in all our sections, with the weather just right for outdoor adventures.**

## Joeys

It was all about bikes, learning about bike preparation, and completing a 10km bike ride from Mundaring to Darlington. Joeys also learned about fire lighting (and extinguishing)!

## Cubs

Cubs have been on an overnight hike on the Bibbulmun track, carrying all their own gear to cook and camp, which was putting their learnings into practice.

## Scouts

Scouts had a mountain biking day out, and finished the term with indoor rockclimbing.

One of our group, Brianna was lucky enough to earn a place with a select group of Scouts to hear Dr Jane Goodall speak at the Perth Zoo, which was an amazing opportunity to hear from an inspiring woman.

## Venturers

Venturers plan their own activities, and headed out had two overnight hikes this term. Some also joined a day out at the Zoo with Scouts WA and other Venturers from around Perth.

## Fundraising

We continue to fundraise for our group attending the Australian Jamboree in January, and our recent wood raffle winner from Rodney from Glen Forrest. Thank you to those that bought tickets at the Artisan markets.

Big thank you to our friends at Community Bank Mundaring for their support with a grant to help with some hall and equipment improvements, and also for the opportunity to sell raffle tickets through their generous raffles– we're grateful for the support they give to our group and volunteer/community groups like ours.

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| • Joey Scouts | (age 5-8) | Monday |
| • Cub Scouts | (age 8-11) | Wednesday |
| • Scouts | (age 11-14) | Thursday |
| • Venturer Scouts | (age 14-18) | Friday |

**For information contact:**

membership@darlingtonscouts.com, or www.darlingtonscouts.com or the **Darlington Scout Group Facebook page**.

Darlington Venturers also have their own Instagram page, so if you are over 14, and interested if what they do, please look them up: **@darlingtonventurers**

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## Colombo – Dambulla – Sigiriya

**Tuesday, 7 May and we were leaving Colombo. We met in the magnificent lobby of our hotel before being shepherded on to our coaches for the 3.5 hour bus trip to Dambulla cave temple and then on to the final destination of Sigiriya.**

After a brief stint on a remarkably empty freeway, we drove through much more rural areas with dense forests on either side intermingled with coconut plantations and even a few monkeys in the trees.

Dambulla cave temple, also known as the Golden Temple of Dambulla, is a World Heritage Site, situated in the central part of the country 148kms east of Colombo. It was the 8th UNESCO World Heritage site in Sri Lanka. King Valagamba, who lost his throne in around the first century BC to South Indian invaders, hid in the caves for 15 years, converting them into a temple. After 15 years he managed to amass a sufficiently large army and defeated the last of the invading Tamil leaders, ruling the country for 12 years.

There are a total of 153 Buddha statues, three statues of Sri Lankan kings and four statues of gods and goddesses, including include Vishnu and the Ganesha. One cave has over 1,500 paintings of Buddha covering the ceiling.

On the way from Dambulla to Sigiriya, much to everyone's excitement, we saw our first elephants. Our guide informed us that we were most fortunate as seeing an elephant walking along the side of the road was a highly unusual sight. By the time we got to the end of our trip and having seen many elephants next the road, some of us were wondering whether that was just our guide having a bit of a lend.

**Match 2**

The second match of our tour was played on Wednesday, 8 May at the Boyagane Army Cricket Ground in Kurunegala. We had been told there were 25-30 keen players on the opposition's side – itself sufficiently daunting and made even more so when we lost a few dads due to several kids succumbing to local bugs, with various degrees of success at aiming for the porcelain.

It was a 1.5 hour drive to the cricket ground passing rice paddies, many coconut plantations as well as another elephant on the road having to be negotiated and a few buffalo roaming in fields.

Given the match was being held on a military base, clearly we weren't going to be arguing with any umpiring decisions. As it turned out, the opposition suffered their own withdrawals and were down to 13 like us. We lost the toss and bowled first. After eight overs they were one for 77 and things were looking grim. However we managed to hau! them back and they scored eight for 192 off their 35 overs. Captain Guy Thompson spread the bowling around with 11 bowlers, standouts being Matt Parsons with two wickets in consecutive balls and 2/1 for the over (he politely confirmed he hadn't when asked if he had ever had a hat trick), Brad Reynolds also with two, the first a beautiful leggie bowling the batter behind his legs, and the remarkable evergreen Cliff Burns with 1/2 off his two overs.

DSCC were well on our way at 1/82 off 10 overs with that man Brad Reynolds scoring a quick fire 30 before it started raining. After a while it eased off enough for Duncan Bell to suggest we should go back on. With lightning still within striking distance the umpires wisely decided they didn't need to go upstairs and kept the players off. One of many good decisions they made during the day, evidenced by a short time later it started to really belt down. The highlight - or at least the bright light – was when a lightening bolt hit a bush right next to the pavilion we were all sheltering in. Duncan Bell was subsequently fined for trying to reduce competition for the batting spots. The ground quickly turned into a lake and that it was it for the match (although we were convinced we would have won). We instead braved the rain to head to the nearby impressive looking colonial building to have yet another tasty curry lunch.

The next day was a very early morning start to visit to the ancient Sigiriya rock fortress, a huge granite column approximately 180m high with 1400 steps to the top. Ben D and Nigel's reputation obviously preceded them as, amongst the many "Instructions for Tourist – a sign with red circles containing symbols most of which had a red line through them (fortunately not the one for the toilets), there was a 'No Music No Partying'.

In the afternoon most of us went on an elephant safari, riding around a large reserve in the back of open top utes. While the weather was pretty unkind, soaking those of us who decided to brave the elements (unlike those softies who pulled the canvas roof and sides into place), it was a truly memorable experience as we saw quite a lot of elephants (adults and babies).

That night being our last and with no buffet on the menu, some of us went to the resort's Chinese restaurant and (gasp) didn't have curry. Was very good Chinese though.

# Darlington Primary School

**Reconciliation Week is a time to reflect on our shared history and build stronger relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians. This year, our students had the privilege of participating in two significant events that underscored the importance of reconciliation, fostering a deeper understanding and respect for the rich cultures and histories of Australia's First Peoples.**

Yirra Yaakin presented Boodjar Kaatijin - a collection of Dreamtime stories which are based on Noongar knowledge and storytelling, based on how the land was created. Boodjar Kaatijin explained to the students The First Sunrise; The Creation of Kings Park; How the Kangaroo Got Its Colour; How the Echidna Got Its Spikes and the Creation of Wave Rock and the Stars.

The second event had the students enthralled, learning through the Aboriginal Technology Program. Aboriginal survival technology, presented by Wild Man (Philip Green) demonstrated how the aboriginal people survived across the varied challenging environments around Australia before white settlement, by virtue of their amazing knowledge of the world around them.

These events were subsidised by our wonderful P&C and enabled our students to be part of the reconciliation journey. By engaging in events like these, our students are taking meaningful steps towards understanding and respecting our shared history, and contributing to a more just and equitable future for all Australians.

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# Silver Tree Steiner School

**At Silver Tree Steiner School, there lies a tradition that accompanies each class as they enter the primary school. As a new class of wide-eyed children, they are not merely assigned a number or a letter to mark their cohort; instead, they are bequeathed a name by their class teacher, that carries meaning and purpose, which will carry them through their primary school journey.** This tradition, steeped in the Steiner philosophy that sees education as a soulful and creative process, aims to instil in each child a sense of belonging and identity. The chosen name often reflects the unique spirit and collective aspirations of the class, serving as a guiding star for the children's formative primary years and fostering a deep connection to the school's community and values.

This term, during a very special assembly, Class 1 Teacher Nikki shared a story about how, just like the blue fairy wren, her new class of children are all magical, unique individuals that shine in their own special way. She spoke of just how caring the children in her class were of one another, and how, just like when you see a blue fairy wren in your garden – you say WOW! So from this time forward, Nikki's class will be called ***Djorrdjilya*** - the Noongar name for the blue splendid fairy wren.

At Silver Tree Steiner School, we are very fortunate to have blue wrens on our beautiful 25 acre school along with red tailed cockatoos, magpies and a host of other native birds and animals.

We can't wait to hear more adventures of the ***Djorrdjilya*** class!

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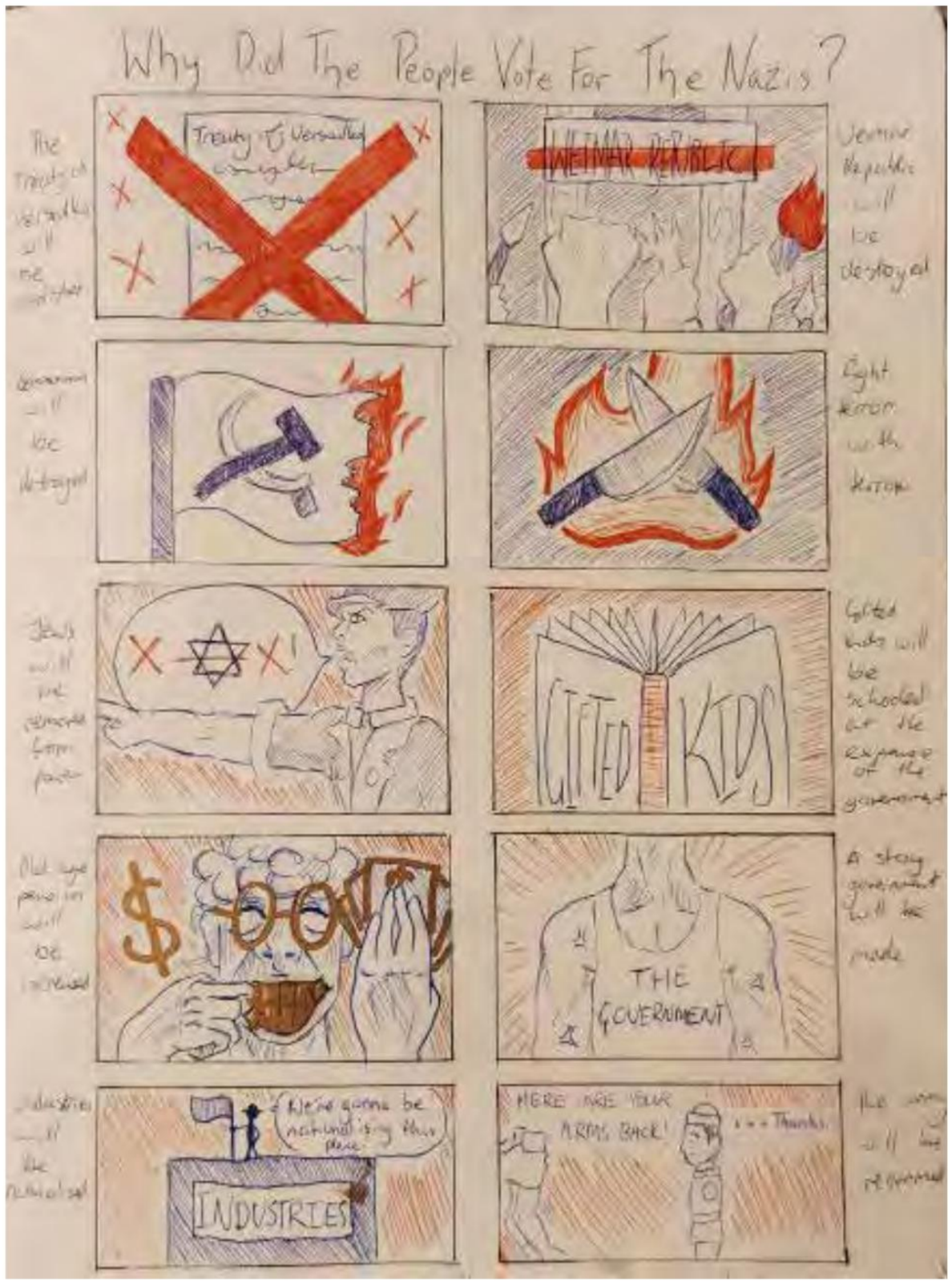


## Class 9 History Main Lesson: The Events Leading up to World War Two

**A strength of the Waldorf History Curriculum is how it is designed to match the child's development. The History Curriculum offers a real breadth and depth to History and allows pupils to leave with a wealth of knowledge and a greater understanding of not only their place in history, but also how their history can shape the future.**

From dramatic reenactments of World War I, to writing and presenting radio advertisements, heatedly debating the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, and writing diary entries from different perspectives, this Class 9 Main Lesson was a busy and interactive exploration of the events leading up to the onset of World War II.

Students were challenged at times with some of the content of this Main Lesson, in particularly when we examined the progressive persecution of the Jews under the Nazi regime.

To compliment this Main Lesson, Class 9 students have been exploring German Expressionism in Visual Art classes. Throughout the term, they were introduced to lino printing as an art form. Students were tasked with designing, carving and printing their own lino prints inspired by the events of World War II.

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# STEPPING UP AND STEPPING OUT

Year 9 is a milestone year at Helena College, marking a student's move from Middle School to their important final three years at school. As part of preparing students to take the next step in their school journey, the Year 9s take on a long-term self-designed capstone project.

The Year 9 Project is a rare opportunity for students to direct their own learning and then evaluate the outcome. The Project is a work of the students' own initiative that reflects a commitment to a chosen area they wish to explore further. Using the Helena College Student Learning Goals as a framework, students can focus on any topic or activity that truly sparks their interest.

The project runs over nine months, making it a sustained, in-depth inquiry that allows students to not only consolidate their learning, but gives them the opportunity to develop a better understanding of their own learning potential through achieving a challenging goal.

Projects can be completed either individually or in a team. Students are supported by a project supervisor from within the College. They are also encouraged to find a mentor from outside the school. However, even with this ongoing support, it is the student's responsibility to complete all components of the project, resulting in an original art work, an original written piece, or an invention. At the conclusion of the project, students present their work to a panel for evaluation and marking.

Projects are required to fit into one of the following categories:

- *Personal Development* – a project that deals with and benefits the physical, social and mental health of the student or others
- *Environmental* – a project that involves studying, creating and benefiting the environment in some way
- *Research based* – a project that involves researching a topic at length and reporting on the findings
- *Community focused* – a project that benefits a local, national or international community group
- *Innovation* – a project that involves learning a skill or set of skills and creating something with those new-found skills.

Helena College Principal, Peter Coombs, said that the quality of projects that are produced each year are a testament to the passion and commitment of the Year 9s, as well as the rich variety of interests they have.

"We are consistently in awe of what our young people can achieve – from organising a grant to refurbish community basketball courts, or making the perfect Japanese pancake through to examining the impact of fast fashion or improving their golf game, the outcomes we see each year are simply amazing."

Limited enrolment opportunities are now available in Year 9 2025. For more information, we invite you to book one of our upcoming tours of Helena College's Senior School, located in Glen Forrest. Alternatively, please contact our Enrolments Coordinator at enrolments@helenawa.edu.au or (08) 9298 9100.

START YOUR JOURNEY.
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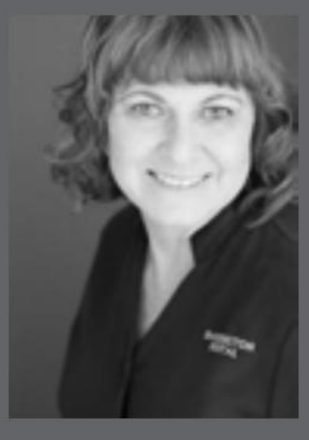

Wendy Hardman

Cath O'Reilly

# Senior Secondary Options at Treetops

**This time of year, parents of Year 10 students, and their children, are usually engaging in the unenviable task of deciding what to do in Year 11. I don't know of many adults who can answer the question of what they want to do with their lives, and, in a rapidly changing world, it is perhaps becoming a bit of a redundant question. Contemporary Year 11 subject choices are more about types of career pathways than specific occupations.**

There has been a decline over time in students studying toward university entrance (ATAR) as compared to other WACE pathways. The assumption that a majority of students will graduate to attend university seems to be under challenge. It may also be reflective of the growth in non-ATAR pathways for university entrance.

Over the same time period, Treetops students have predominantly chosen non-university pathways as the best fit for what is next in their lives. When discussing these choices with our students I often refer to this as planning for Year 13, which is also usually Year 1 as an adult. It ends up being a very practical conversation grounded in near reality rather than a plethora of 'what-if' considerations.

Treetops offers two pathways in Senior Secondary, university entrance via the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (which generates an ATAR) or the WACE, which can be wholly school-based or a mix of school and TAFE (or other certified courses).

## International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

The IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) has been offered at Treetops since 2007, and we are the only accredited IBDP Year 11 and 12 provider in the Eastern Perth Hills region. Treetops is one of only a few schools in Western Australia to achieve this standard.

The IBDP was chosen as our university entrance programme because of its student-centred, holistic, and international approach to education. Montessori and the IB are closely aligned in philosophy, and also with our Treetops ethos, mission, and core values. By combining the Montessori and International Baccalaureate philosophies, Treetops is uniquely placed to provide a different approach to Secondary education. Our non-comparative and non-competitive environment develops each student as an individual, and encourages them to reach their full potential.

Successful completion of the IBDP will give students both an IB Diploma certificate and an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) score. The IBDP provides direct entrance to universities Australian-wide with the achieved ATAR score, and is widely known and accepted as a qualifying programme to attend international universities.

## WACE General Programme

The WACE General programme caters for students who are wishing to go to TAFE, or move towards employment, at the completion of Year 12. We offer our General Programme students a range of subjects to study across Years 11 and 12, with the option of also taking a VETiS (Vocational Education and Training in Schools) course. Successful completion of the General Studies Programme will provide students with a Western Australian Certificate of Education.

At Treetops, we have the flexibility to give students many of the same kinds of academic options as much larger schools, but delivered with all the individual care and attention that a small school has to offer.

If you, or your student, are considering your options for Year 11 and 12, want to continue your IB journey, or to remain at a school in your local area, contact Treetops on 9299 6725 to book a personalised tour and learn about the Treetops difference.

Stuart Harris | Principal

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# Darlington Community Garden (DCG)

## In and around the Darlington Community Garden!

**The Darlington Community Garden wishes our community a winter filled with warm hearty soups, good friends to share a cuppa with and a good fire to warm up with family. The Earth has awakened and the bush is busting with life, we are in the Noongar season of Makuru; winter is here! Makuru, brings the much-needed rains which drench the parched Earth and stimulates life from deep within her body. She is covered with lush green grasses and the trees are looking fresh and glossy.**

The flowers that start to emerge during this season are mostly coloured blue like the blueberry lily (Dianella revoluta) and the blue leschenaultia (Leschenaultia biloba) or purple like the purple flags (Patersonia occidentalis). As Makuru nears its end, the blue and purple flowers will give way to white and cream flowers of Djilba.

This is a great time to be planting fruit trees and that's exactly what we did in the DCG on Sunday the 9th of June. We spent a fabulous wet afternoon planting ten new fruit trees in the garden, around the new creek line and wetland. It was lovely to welcome new helpers to the garden including the four-legged kind, our dogs. We had so much fun; smiling, joking and laughing as we set the trees into their forever homes, gave them some extra food for the winter, put the reticulation in place for the summer, ate some delicious Empire Pastries, drank hot tea, laughed some more and enjoyed the rain and good company. We are very grateful to Alison Atkinson for organising us and making sure that the reticulation was set in place before we left for dry homes. Many thanks to Catherine Rose for the pastries.

If you visit the garden and we hope you do, please check out the wonderful work done by the prisoners from Wooroolloo, who flattened out the road base and defined the paths and keyhole garden beds. As part of the overall garden design, we are starting to see the shape of the goanna which is the Noongar totem for this area, taking shape. Lookout for the goanna the next time you are walking through our community garden.

There is a lovely long table resting under the arbour, at the very end; such a lovely addition to the garden. Erin Grey decided to organise a buy a plank crowd fund! The group raised the money, bought the table and seats and, reassembled it in the garden. Thank you, Erin and team, for sharing this lovely piece of furniture with the community.

Join us in the Garden every Monday at 4.30pm as we care for our nature family members and connect with Mother Earth and, with each other. See you in our community garden.

**MON 4.30pm GARDEN BUSY BEES**

**PLANT AND PRODUCE SWAP**

**SUNDAY 14 July** from 5pm
(2nd Sunday of month)

Bring produce, seeds, cuttings, plants, herbs, jams, etc and plate of food and drink to share.

**From 6pm** - **DRUMMING CIRCLE** and Yarning. Drums provided.

**NEW MEMBERS**

www.darlingtoncommunitygarden.org.au/join-us-1

Keep in touch and have your say on our DCG FACEBOOK page
www.facebook.com/groups/218148335647263

JOIN US

FACEBOOK

# Friends of Darlington Station Reserve (FODS)

## And We Are Off And Racing

**Our wonderful volunteers turned out in the rain on the first working Sunday in June to start this season's tube stock planting. What a great bunch of people you are - thank you so much for your commitment. Morning tea had to be relocated to the Arnold's home to escape the weather and thank you, Pam for the delicious goodies you baked. We were much luckier on the second Sunday when more holes were dug and more plants, courtesy of The Shire of Mundaring, went in.**

You will recognise the new plants by their green covers.

We hope to have 200 new plants in by the end of this winter. The Reserve, like the Bush and our gardens, has sustained significant plant loss due to the hot dry summer, so we hope that changes we are making to our process and plant selection and location will help the survival rate of these new additions.

Walking around the reserve, though, with my 'look for the positives' hat on I noted lots of healthy little plants from last year's planting that did make it; lots didn't but lots did.

Hakea Petiolaris (see photo below) my personal recommendation. My block is a very hot north-facing one but this plant is as tough as goats' knees at home and the black cockatoos love it. As gardeners we are all eternal optimists, so please never loose that. We adapt and change with the times and then focus on the positives. Remember the song? We do.

"Accentuate the Positive...."

Won't you come and join our little Friends Group? We are always looking for new members and we have a lot of fun whilst doing very worthwhile work much appreciated by the community; thank you to those people who stop and tell us this while we work.

You can call Jane on 0477 987 048 for information or come along 8am to 10am on alternate Sundays. We meet on 14th and 28th in July.

Diane

*(Far left): New plants with green covers.*

*(Left): Hakea Petiolaris, our local Sea urchin Hakea.*


## Advertisement Specifications

1/6 page
**$66**
60mm wide
130mm high

1/3 page
**$132**
125mm wide
130mm high

1/2 page **$165**
**190mm** wide
**130mm** high

Technical Specifications*

1. 'Print' (or 'High') resolution PDF preferred (high-resolution JPG acceptable); (High resolution EG: An A4 (210x297mm) page should be a minimum of 10mb)
2. Fonts either embedded or converted to outlines (critical);
3. Colours set as CMYK (preferable) or RGB;
4. Images embedded (critical); and
5. Border 'keyline' optional.

(*Contact Production Manager for any clarification of specifications.)

The Darlington Review has been praised in State Parliament. It is a well-loved institution informing and binding the community since the 1950s - and it's the very best advertising option, along with word-of-mouth.

The Darlington Review is delivered free to all local households and our low advertising rates makes it easily affordable. We have it on good authority from local tradies that it's the only advertising you may need to do. If you are interested and want further information get in touch with our Advertising Manager **Julie Stuurstraat: 0412 225 613**
**advertising@darlingtonreview.com.au**

DARLINGTON REVIEW

# Email The Minister! Help Save 60,000 Hills' Trees!

**While the long-awaited Winter rains have finally arrived for our desperately thirsty trees, the Save Perth Hills' Committee is as busy as ever, fighting to save at least 60,000 trees and almost 200 hectares of native vegetation, earmarked to be bulldozed by Satterley at the proposed North Stoneville site, owned by the Anglican Diocese of Perth.**

Our focus remains firmly on the 2025 State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) hearing to determine the fate of Satterley's 3rd - yes THIRD - amended plan. But Satterley also needs Federal permission to destroy a massive area of North Stoneville's forest and vegetation.

The good news! People Power is at work again too! Hundreds of emails have already been sent by our supporters to our Federal Member for Hasluck, Tania Lawrence, and to Federal Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek asking both MPs to reject the environmental destruction that Satterley seeks.

## Have You Sent Yours Yet?

There's still time – and it's crucial to get as many emails as possible flooding those in boxes!

You don't need to live in Hasluck, or even the Hills! if your friends or extended family want to help 'Save Perth Hills ' encourage them all to write a short email demanding Satterley's 'Offset plan' be rejected, and that the Federal Government acts to protect our unique Hills' environment.

Include this case number - **EPBC 2018/8382** and send your (Polite!) emails to:

- Minister.Plibersek@dcceew.gov.au
- tania.lawrence.mp@aph.gov.au
- saveperthhillsinc@gmail.com

Some points you can consider are:

- I VOTE FOR the Environment, and I want YOU to SAVE North Stoneville.
- Williams Shire (the proposed offset site) is 180kms away and NOT a suitable offset! No Black Cockatoos have been recorded on this site. (A requirement for approved offsets).
- Bulldozing 60,000 trees will NEVER be 'Nature Positive' (the Govt's latest enviro pitch)
- There is NO reference to the 2021 Wooroloo Bushfire (5kms from North Stoneville) which devastated local habitat.
- There is NO reference to 2023-24 drought that's wiped out thousands of trees and placed thousands more under huge stress from which they might never recover.
- Proposed North Stoneville will REDUCE Cockatoo habitat for Endangered Baudin's and Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (Baudin's facing extinction within 20 years)
- The Perth Hills are a biodiverse environment – not an urban sprawl development site!

Satterley lodged their intention to bulldoze North Stoneville way back in 2018. We believe this is one of the longest running unresolved EPBC matters before the Canberra office.

Over the last couple of weeks SPH has been diligently reviewing Satterley's proposed offset plan which, basically, is an agreement

to buy land elsewhere, to 'make up for' all the land they'll destroy for their proposed North Stoneville housing estate.

The proposed offset site is in the Shire of Williams – 180kms from North Stoneville. (How will North Stoneville's Chuditch and Black Cockies find their way there?)

We have found huge errors and oversights in Satterley's application. We've emailed our concerns to Kate Hamer, Director Nature Positive Regulation, Environment Assessments West, and cc'd the Federal Environment Minister regarding this high-level information that we believe could de-rail Satterley's offset application.

Of major concern is that NO endangered Black Cockatoos have been recorded at the proposed offset site - no evidence of roosting, or foraging, which is statutory requirement for offset approval.

SPH understands that Satterley has also reduced the conservation value of North Stoneville in order to reduce their offset requirements.

Additionally, new Federal 'Nature Positive' offsets require proposed offsets to be 're-vegetated' – not fully forested, which is the case at the proposed Williams site.

We expect a decision from Canberra in late July... while the State fight, at WA's SAT, is expected to be heard sometime after the March 2025 State election.

But right now – PLEASE - get those emails into the Federal Environment Minister and to Tania Lawrence! Our Hills – and Black Cockies are depending on you!

**Email us if you have any questions:**
saveperthhillsinc@gmail.com

**And our War Chest remains open to fight Satterley's madness. If you can donate, know you're helping to save 60,000 trees!**

**Bendigo Bank Account - BSB 633 000 – 160715942.**

**Or your plastic bottles via Containers for Change: *'Save Perth Hills' 10307279.'***

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| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Monday AM | Upholstery Mod.Trad & Auto | 9:00am | 12:00pm | $180.00 |
| Monday AM | Patchwork Sewing | 9:00am | 11:30am | $100.00 |
| Monday AM | Pottery Wheel Beginners | 9:00am | 11:30am | $120.00 |
| Monday AM | Oil & Acrylic Painting | 9:00am | 11:30am | $120.00 |
| Monday AM | Woodwork - Own Projects | 9:00am | 11:30am | $120.00 |
| Monday PM | Ultimate Doll Project | 12:45pm | 3:15pm | Free |
| Monday PM | Mixed Media Masterclass | 12:45pm | 3:15pm | $130.00 |
| Monday PM | Woodwork - Own Projects | 12:45pm | 3:15pm | $120.00 |
| Tuesday AM | Chair Yoga | 9:30am | 11:00am | $100.00 |
| Tuesday AM | Wood Turning | 9:00am | 11:30am | $100.00 |
| Tuesday PM | Yoga Gentle Afternoon | 12:45pm | 2:15pm | $100.00 |
| Wednesday | Botanical Individual Intermediate | 9:30am | 11:30pm | $100.00 |
| Wednesday | Clay Sculpture Group - Intermediate | 9:00am | 11:30am | $120.00 |
| Wednesday | Leadlight Wed Morning | 9:00am | 11:30am | $100.00 |
| Wednesday | Sewing - Morning Session | 9:30am | 12:00pm | $100.00 |
| Wednesday | Leadlight Wed Afternoon | 12:45pm | 3:15pm | $100.00 |
| Wednesday | Wood Turning | 12:45pm | 3:15pm | $100.00 |
| Wednesday | Sewing - Afternoon Session | 12:30pm | 3:00pm | $100.00 |
| Wednesday | Clay Sculpture - Studio Time Only - Casual Class | 12:45pm | 3:15pm | $12.00 / Class |
| Thursday AM | Leadlight Thurs Morning | 9:00am | 11:30am | $100.00 |
| Thursday AM | Botanical | 9:00am | 11:30am | $100.00 |
| Thursday AM | Wood Turning Beginners | 9:00am | 11:30am | $100.00 |
| Thursday AM | Pottery Wheel - All Levels | 9:00am | 11:30am | $120.00 |
| Thursday PM | Leadlight Thurs Afternoon | 12:45pm | 3:15pm | $100.00 |
| Thursday PM | Traditional Upholstery | 12:45pm | 3:15pm | $100.00 |
| Friday AM | Creative Writing | 9:00am | 11:00pm | $100.00 |
| Friday AM | Ceramics Hand Built Introduction (Continuing Students Only) | 9:00am | 12:00pm | $120.00 |
| Friday AM | Hatha Yoga | 10:00am | 11:30am | $100.00 |
| Friday AM | Rigid Heddle Loom Weaving | 9:00am | 11:30am | $100.00 |
| Friday PM | Watercolour Painting 102 (Continuing Students Only) | 12:30pm | 3:00pm | $130.00 |
| Friday PM | ½ Hour Reiki Sessions by appointment Ph 0422 981 698 | 12:00pm | 2:00pm | $50.00 |
| | **WEEKEND CLASSES** | | | |
| Saturday AM | Wellbeing Through Movement | 9:00am | 10:15am | $60.00 |

| Day | Workshops | Start | Finish | Cost |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2nd Saturday | Felting Group | 10:00am | 3:00pm | $10.00 per |
| Saturday 20th July | Acrylic Painting Workshop (Pre-free workshop please book through www.trybooking.com) | 9:30am | 2:30pm | $140.00 (including lunch) |

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